Ople dares Guingona to bring MLSA to Supreme Court

Story on PAGE A2

Ayala group gains control of The Fort

By Doris C. Dumlao

PROPERTY giant Ayala Land Inc. and its allies gained control yesterday of the massive Fort Bonifacio prime property development project from a rival for $90 million—the largest property deal in the Philippines in years.

The deal, in effect, allowed the Ayala group of companies to wrestle—at a bar-

AYALA/ A19

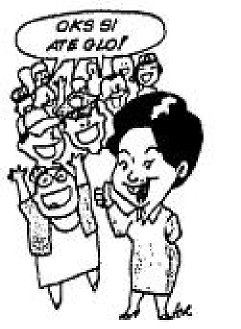
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER Sunday
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

Gov't workers to get P5,000 cash gift

THANK God for small graces.

Government workers can expect an across-the-board "cash gift" of P5,000 for Christmas despite the huge budget deficit, President Macapagal-Arroyo

GOV'T/ A19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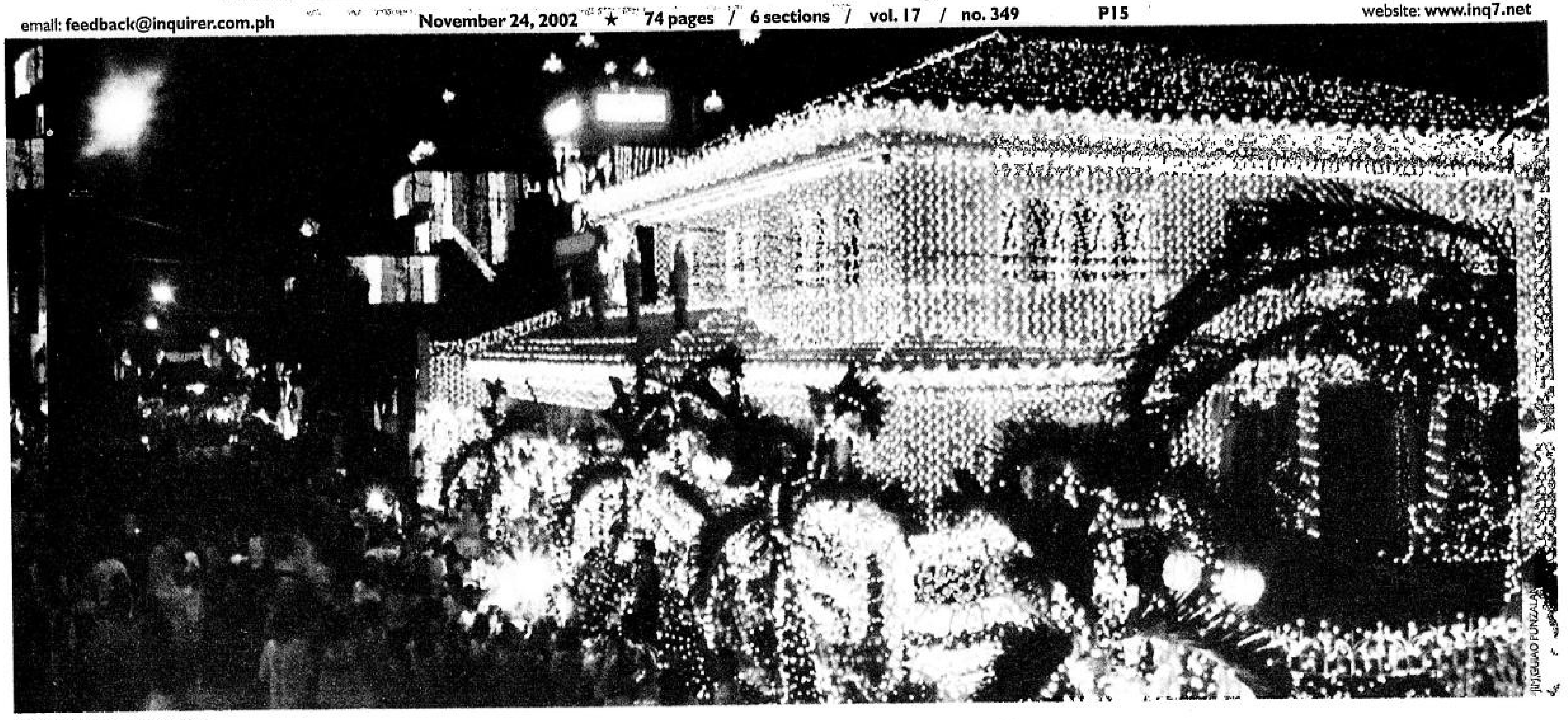

JIM GUIAO PUNZALA

LET THERE BE LIGHT
Every year, this house on Policarpio Street in Mandaluyong City literally takes the Christmas message of dispelling the darkness as every square inch of it is a blazing reflection and celebration of the season.

No Meralco takeover

Palace says it's just after management control

By Dona Z. Pazzibugan and Clarissa S. Batino

MALACAÑANG yesterday admitted it wanted to take management control of the Manila Electric Co. from the Lopez family.

President Macapagal-Arroyo's spokesperson Rigoberto Tiglao said the administration was not after ownership control but changes in the top management of the power distribution firm. And despite the Lopezes' strong objection to the proposal made by Finance Secretary Jose Isidro Camacho, Tiglao indicated that the administration had not given up on it.

He said administration officials would discuss the proposal with a bigger "working group" that included not just the Lopezes but Meralco's creditors and stakeholders, the biggest being the government.

"It was not at all a proposal for a government takeover but simply a plan to upgrade Meralco's corporate standing in the financial market," Tiglao said, and stressed that the President had no prior knowledge of it.

According to Tiglao, Camacho felt that Meralco's creditors and the financial market would welcome the entry of a new set of professional and independent managers and directors, as what happened in the case of the Philippine National Bank (PNB), which remains majority-controlled by tycoon Lucio Tan.

"The government does not need to 'want Meralco,'" he said in reference to yesterday's headline in the INQUIRER, which reported the draft memorandum of agreement that Camacho faxed on Nov. 12 to Eugenio "Gabby" Lopez III, chair and CEO of ABS-CBN.

"It already has a big stake in Meralco both as a shareholder and as a government duty-bound to ensure the stability of a public utility," he added.

But Raul Roco wants Malacañang to explain why it was already offering to take control of Meralco three days before the release of a Supreme Court decision ordering the firm to refund consumers an estimated P28 billion.

The former education secretary and contender in the 2004 presidential race also wants an explanation on the "principle" behind Camacho's proposal and the "apparent haste" in which it was "suspiciously" made.

Chief Justice Hilario Davide should launch an inquiry into how the landmark decision was apparently "leaked" to the Palace, Roco said in a statement faxed to the INQUIRER.

Camacho himself defended the proposal that supposedly "shocked" the Lopezes, and stressed that it was not his initiative to draft it. He said the Lopezes through his friend Gabby

NO/ A18

Sorting out sex and the clergy

By Ma.Ceres P. Doyo

(First of two parts)

A NUN was serving food to a priest and retreat master in his room when the latter suddenly grabbed the nun and pinned her down on the bed. The nun struggled and escaped unhurt but traumatized.

This same retreat master, a foreigner, asked a superior if a young religious novice of his choice could give him a massage in his room. The smart novice refused, muttering under her breath, "Over my dead body."

A nun-nurse who examined a tribal girl who was raped by an American priest testified too late against the accused (that is, changed her first statement exonerating the priest) thus resulting in an acquittal. She regretted the outcome and told the INQUIRER the reason she had initially kept the truth, "I wanted to protect the Church."

These are true-to-life cases that happened years ago. Only now are such cases being frontally addressed, and for the first time, by the women religious and laity themselves so that causes may be confronted and the Church patriarchy may act and not play blind.

"With utmost prudence and confidentiality." This was how the recent research on sexual abuses committed by Catholic diocesan and religious clergy was conducted.

The Research Committee of the Women and Gender Commission of the Association of Major Religious Superiors of Women in the Philippines (AMRSWP) wanted that emphasized. Research was started late last year, before stories of sexual abuses in the church abroad broke in

SORTING/ A19

AD'S 'JUNIOR OLYMPICS.' With their entry—a shampoo cum soap—marketing students of the Ateneo won the 3rd Philippine Association of National Advertisers (Pana) Marketing Communications Awards last Friday presented by the INQUIRER and INQUIRER Libre. From left, Susan Dimacali, INQUIRER chair Marixi R.Prieto and Carmina Rodriguez posed with the winning team. *(Story on Page A2)*

Miss World finals flees to London

KADUNA, Nigeria—Organizers canceled the Miss World pageant in Nigeria yesterday after about 100 people died in rioting triggered by the beauty contest and a newspaper's reference to the prophet Muhammad and that he might have chosen one of the 110 candidates as his wife.

The event will be held in London on Dec. 7, the same day it had been planned for Nigeria, organizers said.

The decision followed a third day of battles Friday between Muslims and Christians, leaving mosques and churches smoldering and charred bodies in the dusty streets.

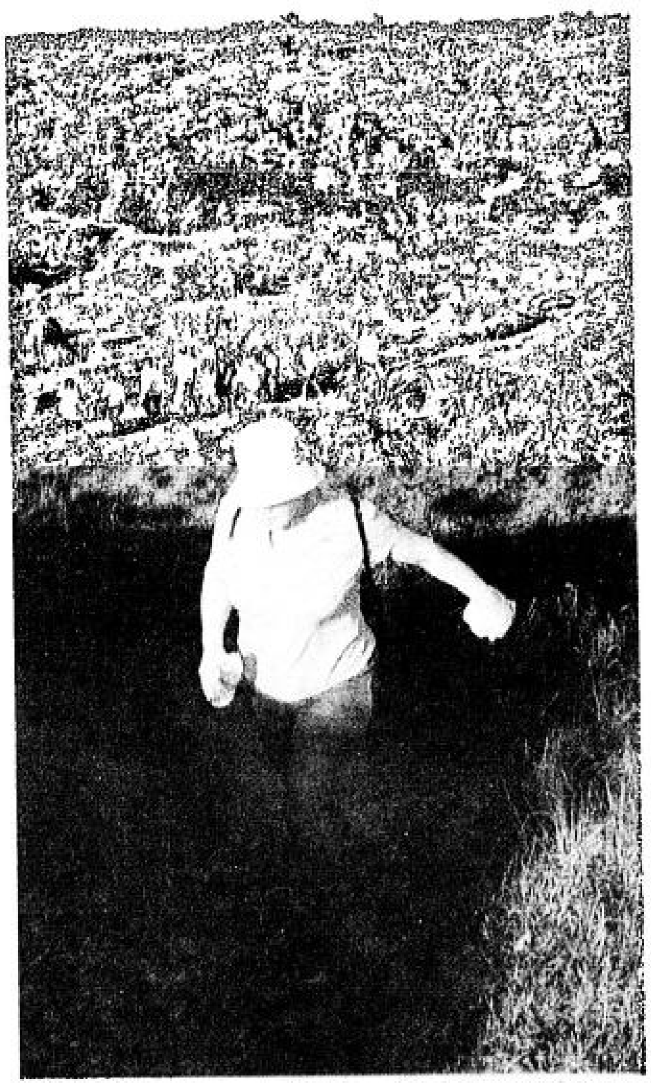
As the contestants prepared to fly to London, Miss Scotland told the British tabloid The Sun that Miss World was not worth dying for.

"We're being used as the excuse. People are killing each other and saying it is all about Miss World—I can't have that. I'm coming home as soon as I possibly can," Paula Murphy said.

Organizers had hoped that the spectacle, billed as the world's most watched television event, would brighten the image of Africa's most populous nation as a tourist destination.

Officials said Miss World was moving to London "in the overall interests of Nigeria and the contestants." The brief statement released shortly after midnight in the capital,

MISS/ A19



DO you know the way up the Sierra Madre Mountain to get to the Galalan Elementary School in Pangil, Laguna? Eskwela ng Bayan staff members hike five km to get there.

Remote mountain school goes hi-tech

By Blanche S. Rivera

SIX months ago, Galalan Elementary School, a small mountain school in Pangil, Laguna, had no electricity, barely had books and had little hope that anybody would ever notice.

Settled on a clearing that can be reached only after a 5-kilometer hike up a rough, muddy trail on the Sierra Madre, the school hosts mostly children of *kaingiñeros* who did not know about the most basic technology.

Last week, however, the school received a 29-inch television set, a satellite dish, a VCD player and educational VCDs through the government's Eskwela ng Bayan (school of the people) project. It is the first of 1,000 public schools that was endowed with the materials to supplement the basic education curriculum of the Department of Education (DepEd).

A project under the Presidential Management Staff, the Eskwela ng Bayan was set up to provide the educational needs of 1,000 public schools that the DepEd had neglected due to geographical barriers.

REMOTE/ A19

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Northern and Eastern Luzon will experience mostly cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers. The rest of the country will have partly cloudy to cloudy skies with isolated rainshowers and thunderstorms.

SOURCE: PAGASA

COMPILED BY: ARMIN ADINA, PDI RESEARCH/11/24/02

Metro Manila	Partly Cloudy	Iloilo/Bacolod	Partly Cloudy
Baguio	Cloudy with Rains	Roxas	Partly Cloudy
Tuguegarao	Cloudy with Rains	Cebu	Partly Cloudy
Laoag	Cloudy with Rains	Tacloban	Partly Cloudy
Clark Zone	Partly Cloudy	Gen. Santos	Partly Cloudy
Tagaytay	Partly Cloudy	Zamboanga	Partly Cloudy
Legazpi	Cloudy with Rains	Cagayan de Oro	Partly Cloudy
Calapan	Partly Cloudy	Davao	Partly Cloudy

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Second FrontPage

Ople dares Guingona: Go ahead, sue

By Norman Bordadora

FOREIGN Affairs Secretary Blas Ople yesterday dared Vice President Teofisto Guingona and others opposed to the Mutual Logistics Support Agreement with the United States to go to the Supreme Court if they truly believe that it violated the Constitution.

"They will be disappointed when the Supreme Court dismisses their petition outright because there is no 'justifiable controversy'," Ople said in a statement.

He recalled how those who opposed the Visiting Forces Agreement in 1999 went to the Supreme Court to seek constitutional redress but were "rebuffed" by the high tribunal.

Ople led defense and Malacañang officials yesterday in defending the MLSA which he characterized as "nothing but a set of accounting and administrative procedures to facilitate reciprocal exchanges of supplies" in the framework of the Mutual Defense Treaty of 1951, the Visiting Forces Agreement of 1999 and the Military Assistance Agreement of 1947.

Guingona has led protests from various sectors, including the legislature, against the agreement whose signing had allegedly been rushed in great secrecy to avoid contentious debate on certain controversial provisions.

Ople said he was willing to debate the MLSA and other matters pertaining to the country's relations with the US in a venue like the National Press Club.

He denied there was any secrecy involved in the signing of the MLSA, saying he and Defense Secretary Angelo Reyes promptly showed up at the Senate within one hour of the signing last Thursday to brief the senators on the agreement.

Within the hour, copies of the agreement were furnished Senate President Franklin Drilon, Speaker Jose de Venecia, Sen. Manuel Villar, chair of the Senate foreign relations committee, and House legislators Apolinario Lozada and Imee Marcos, chair and vice chair of the House committee on foreign relations, he said.

"There could be no briefing until the agreement was signed because the final text kept evolving until the last minute," Ople said.

He said negotiations on the MLSA became protracted for almost a year "because of significant changes introduced by the Philippine side, in the nature of amendments strengthening the agreement's adherence to the Constitution and the laws of the Republic of the Philippines."

He said that as an executive agreement, the MLSA need not be sent to the Senate for concurrence or ratification.

"We have hundreds of executive agreements pertaining to Official Development Assistance with so many foreign governments seeking to help in the war against poverty and terrorism in Mindanao," Ople said.

Asked why legislators were not consulted during the negotiations, Ople said "responsible states do not negotiate under the glare of publicity but under conditions of minimum circumspection."

Opposition Sen. Aquilino Pimentel yesterday claimed the approval of the MLSA was rushed and the pact secretly signed to prepare for a possible US war against Iraq as Washington would require the use of the country's facilities by US forces for refueling and resupply purposes.

National Security Adviser Roilo Golez said Guingona had no cause to complain about the MLSA as the "bulk of his observations influenced the final draft."

He said the Cabinet oversight committee on the MLSA had taken note of Guingona's objections when the latter was still foreign secretary and had invited him to be a "resource person" during one of its meetings.

Defense Secretary Reyes yesterday allayed Guingona's fears that the pact would draw the Philippines into a US-Iraq war, explaining that the agreement does not commit the Philippines to send troops and equipment in support of a US war.

"The government has not made a decision yet on how we will get involved in Iraq. The MLSA is not involved in that decision. The decision will have to be made by our authorities. The manner, the magnitude, the timing, the nature of the involvement will have to be decided upon," Reyes told ABS-CBN television.

But he added the MLSA "would come into the picture" after the government has made a decision on whether to join the war.

Noting that the MLSA called for reciprocity in cooperative efforts within or outside Philippine territory, Guingona warned that the MLSA would draw the country into a war between the US and Iraq.

Guingona gave up the foreign affairs portfolio in July because of his objection to President Macapagal-Arroyo's all-out support for the US global war against terrorism.

Golez called as "an old cliche coming from the Left" Guingona's charge that by signing the MLSA with the US, the Philippines would become a magnet for anti-US attacks.

"That was said during the Vietnam war when we sent troops and again when the US had military bases here. But nothing happened," he said.

Without specifying anyone, he called the MLSA's critics "communist sympathizers."

The militant Bagong Alyansang Makabayan said yesterday it was convening an "Assembly of Patriots" forum at the University of the Philippines on Nov. 26 to discuss the contentions provisions of the MLSA.

With reports from TJ Burgonio, Dona Pazzibugan, Cynthia Balana and Volt Contreras

US envoy laughs off fears

US Ambassador to the Philippines Francis Ricciardone yesterday brushed off fears that a new US-Philippine security pact could bring the country into any conflict with Iraq, saying such fears were overblown.

He said the new agreement was merely a logistics-sharing accord and would not result in US bases being set up in the Philippines once again.

"We don't want bases, we don't need them and the MLSA (Mutual Logistics Support Agreement) has nothing to do with bases," Ricciardone told reporters after meeting with President Macapagal-Arroyo.

Ricciardone said it was a "huge stretch of the imagination to make any connection whatsoever between the MLSA and being drawn into a war."

"I simply don't have that kind of imagination. I don't see the connection," he added.

Some legislators have said the agreement needs to be ratified by the Senate but Ricciardone said such matters were not even raised to the Cabinet, commenting, "It's just an accounting job being done by a responsible supply officer."

National Security Adviser Roilo Golez meanwhile said the agreement would boost the capabilities of the poorly equipped Philippine military, "because now we will have immediate access to whatever materials are going to be part of the MLSA."

He said leftist groups were against the accord because they were "sympathizers" of the communist guerrillas and were therefore opposed to anything that would strengthen the Philippines' armed forces. *AFP*

Ateneo studes top 'junior Olympics of RP advertising'

By L. del Puerto

A SHAMPOO and body soap rolled into one bar? How trendy could that get?

That was the idea that young marketing students successfully sold to some of the country's top advertising executives in the 3rd Philippine Association of National Advertisers (Pana) Marketing Communications Awards held last Friday at the Manila Hotel.

The Pana Awards, presented by the Philippine Daily Inquirer and Inquirer Libre, capped a three-day seminar-workshop on marketing and advertising for students and young professionals.

And for the second time since the awards' inception, the Ateneo de Manila University won the top prize with its top-to-toe body and shampoo bar called "Plunge."

Four other schools—De La Salle University, University of the Philippines, University of Sto. Tomas and Polytechnic University of the Philippines—competed in the finals.

"They were absolutely fabulous, very creative. I can see that the advertising landscape will be totally different in their time," said Gigi Rodriguez, Citibank assistant vice president and Pana president.

ADMU's "Plunge," which would cater to the "niche of young and active professionals," was realistic and very practical, Rodriguez noted.

The other four schools targeted the C, D and E classes.

INQUIRER president Sandy Prieto-Romualdez dubbed the event "the Junior Olympics" of Philippine advertising.

"For us, this is an investment for the future," she said. "These students will be the next generation of leaders in the ad industry. This is one way of upgrading their skills and exposing them to the advertising world."

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PUBLIC INTERNATIONAL LAW	Justice Jorge R. Coquia
ELECTION LAW UPDATES	Justice Regalado E. Maambong
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Don't declare Christmas truce with Reds, top cop urges gov't

By TJ Burgonio

THE GOVERNMENT should forego the customary ceasefire with the communist New People's Army this Christmas because of its alleged terrorist activities, a top police official has suggested.

"I'm not questioning the wisdom of what our higher officers might say about this, but from my point of view, we need not declare a ceasefire against a group of bandits and terrorists," said Deputy Director Gen. Virtus Gil, the chief of the Directorial Staff of the Philippine National Police.

The government every year unilaterally declares a month-long ceasefire in December with the NPA in deference to the season.

Last month, the European Union declared that Jose Ma. Sison, founding chair of the Communist Party of the Philippines, and the NPA were terrorists. A few months before, the United States had included the CPP-NPA in its list of terrorist organizations.

After the EU move, the police have come to refer to the NPA as a "communist terrorist movement."

In the past, the rebels had been referred to as dissident terrorists by the police and military establishment.

Gil said the police should expect the communist rebels to step up their attacks on police stations and vital installations in the coming weeks following their group's inclusion in the EU terror list.

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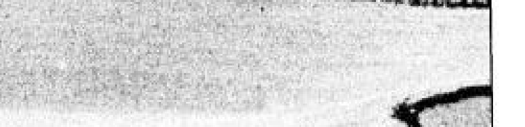

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US support crucial to presidential bet in 2004, says Angara

By Cynthia D. Balana

A PRESIDENTIAL candidate must be US-friendly to win in 2004, according to opposition Sen. Edgardo Angara.

Speaking in a television interview, Angara said American support is crucial to the election of a candidate, whether they are a member of the administration or the opposition party.

Angara said the US may not directly finance the candidacy of a presidential aspirant but could always work to ensure their smooth victory in the end.

"A candidate must not be antagonistic to America," Angara said.

"Almost all international organizations are dominated by Americans. You need their goodwill," he added.

Angara noted that previous Presidents Corazon Aquino and Fidel Ramos were US-friendly. So is President Macapagal-Arroyo.

Former President Joseph Estrada, a staunch foe of US bases, adopted a friendlier attitude toward the United States in the middle of his shortened term.

But being US-friendly alone is not a guarantee of winning, Angara said.

While popularity was a major factor, he said, leadership and competence to govern were other requirements.

Movie actor Fernando Poe Jr. may be "very popular" with the masses, he said, but he does not appeal to the business sector.

"I don't think there's one single quality that is dominant in any presidential candidate," Angara said. "It could be a combination (of several)."

Asked why Poe is being considered for 2004, Angara said the people who are peddling Poe are peddling a dream—to rise above poverty.

He said Poe has repeatedly professed he's not running.

"I have to take his word for it. He said he will not run," Angara said.

As for Sen. Panfilo Lacson, Angara said his tough stance against criminality has earned him admirers.

But the opposition, he said, was still working on a method to select a single candidate against President Macapagal.

In terms of popularity, Angara said, Senate Majority Leader Loren Legarda is a force to reckon with, considering the women's vote.

He said Legarda would make a good vice presidential bet for the opposition.

"HUMANITY'S BEST": President Macapagal-Arroyo poses with foreign employers who received awards in Malacanang for consistently hiring Filipinos and treating them well. MALACAÑANG PHOTO

Thank you, RP tells foreign employers

By Blanche S. Rivera

THOUSANDS of hopeful Filipinos leave the country every day bound for uncertain fates abroad. Very few, however, find their destiny in the hands of someone like Dig Hong Betty Tsui Wong who employs a Filipino domestic helper in Hong Kong.

Tsui, the managing director of the Union Bank of Switzerland in Hong Kong, has faithfully nurtured her Filipino maid, Lolita Besmonte, for 12 years.

So much so that when Besmonte found out she had cervical cancer while on vacation here, Tsui immediately summoned her back to Hong Kong, sent for the best doctors to treat her and even hired part-time maids to fill in her duties in the house even as she received her full pay.

Besmonte is now back on her feet, her cancer cured. Her daughter, who is now also in Tsui's employ, is being sponsored for masteral studies by Tsui.

For exemplifying "humanity's best," Tsui was chosen as the only individual employer of an overseas Filipino worker to receive recognition in the First International Employers Awards (FIEA) given by the Philippine government to foreign individuals and companies who hire OFWs.

The FIEA recognizes the firms and people who have consistently hired Filipino workers and treated them according to the highest labor standards.

Signed into law in October 2001, the FIEA is aimed at showing the Philippines' appreciation for the trust in Filipino workers and the opportunities for growth made available to them by foreign employers.

Some 400 foreign employers, most of them big names in industry in their home countries, came to Manila for the awarding night at the Peninsula Hotel on Thursday night.

Labor Secretary Patricia Sto. Tomas conferred the awards to 55 land-based and 38 sea-based employers.

On Friday, 15 of the land-based employers received the Presidential Awards of Distinction from President Macapagal-Arroyo in a grand awards night at Malacañang.

"Cancer was a death sentence for me, but I wanted so much to live for my children. Mrs. Tsui's goodness gave me the strength and hope I needed," Besmonte said in an interview.

"She made sure that I was well before she let me go back home. She was not just my employer, she was my friend," Besmonte added.

Besmonte and her daughter Nancy Rose received the award for Tsui who was in Korea at the time. Besmonte tearfully said how lucky she was for the Lord to have entrusted her to a good woman.

"I feel greatly honored," Tsui said in a statement sent to the DOLE.

She said she wanted the Besmontes to receive the award on her behalf because she "would like them to share this joy with me.. They took care of my home very well."

Saudi companies, including Saudia Airlines, Saudi Aramco and the King Faisal Specialist Hospital and Research Center, got a lion's share of the awards, taking 21 of the 55 prizes.

Most of the employers were from the Middle East, still the top destination for overseas Filipino workers, although Britain is emerging as a choice employer.

Norway still topped the sea-based employers, with seven awards, followed by Japan and the United States with five each.

"This is a good start. We also have to recognize the people who take care of our own," Sto. Tomas said. "There's a lot more to the Philippines than they can imagine. It's not as bad as some think."

Fake Nike, Adidas shoes seized

AGENTS of the Criminal Investigation and Detection Group (CIDG) seized some P800 million worth of fake Nike and Adidas rubber shoes smuggled from China in separate raids on retail stores and warehouses in Pasay City on Friday.

The operatives recovered boxes of counterfeit Nike and Adidas products from the Galeria building, Baclaran Terminal Mall, Merwin's Mart and Sunshine Fastfood and Trading, CIDG chief Chief Supt Eduardo Matillano said.

"Investigation is being done to ascertain how the said products were smuggled into the country and establish the identity of people involved behind the these illegal activities which defraud not only these two multi-national companies but also the government," Matillano said in a statement.

The seized goods were brought to the offices of Nike and Adidas in Manila for inventory and safekeeping.

The CIDG agents, together with representatives from the Nike Philippines and Adidas Philippines conducted the searches in the stores and warehouses based on warrants issued by a local city court. *TJ Burgonio*

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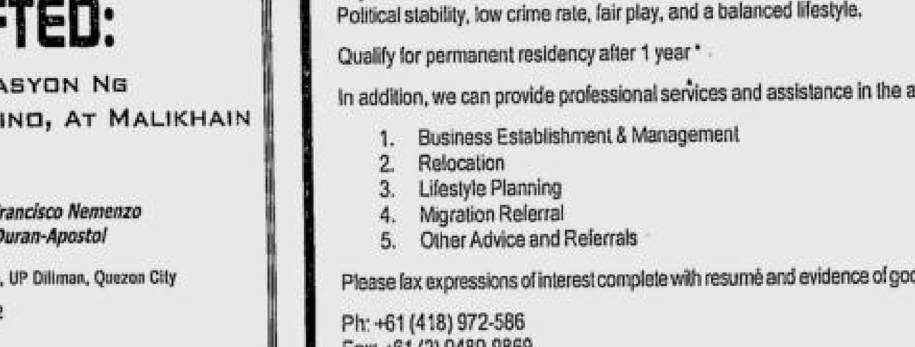

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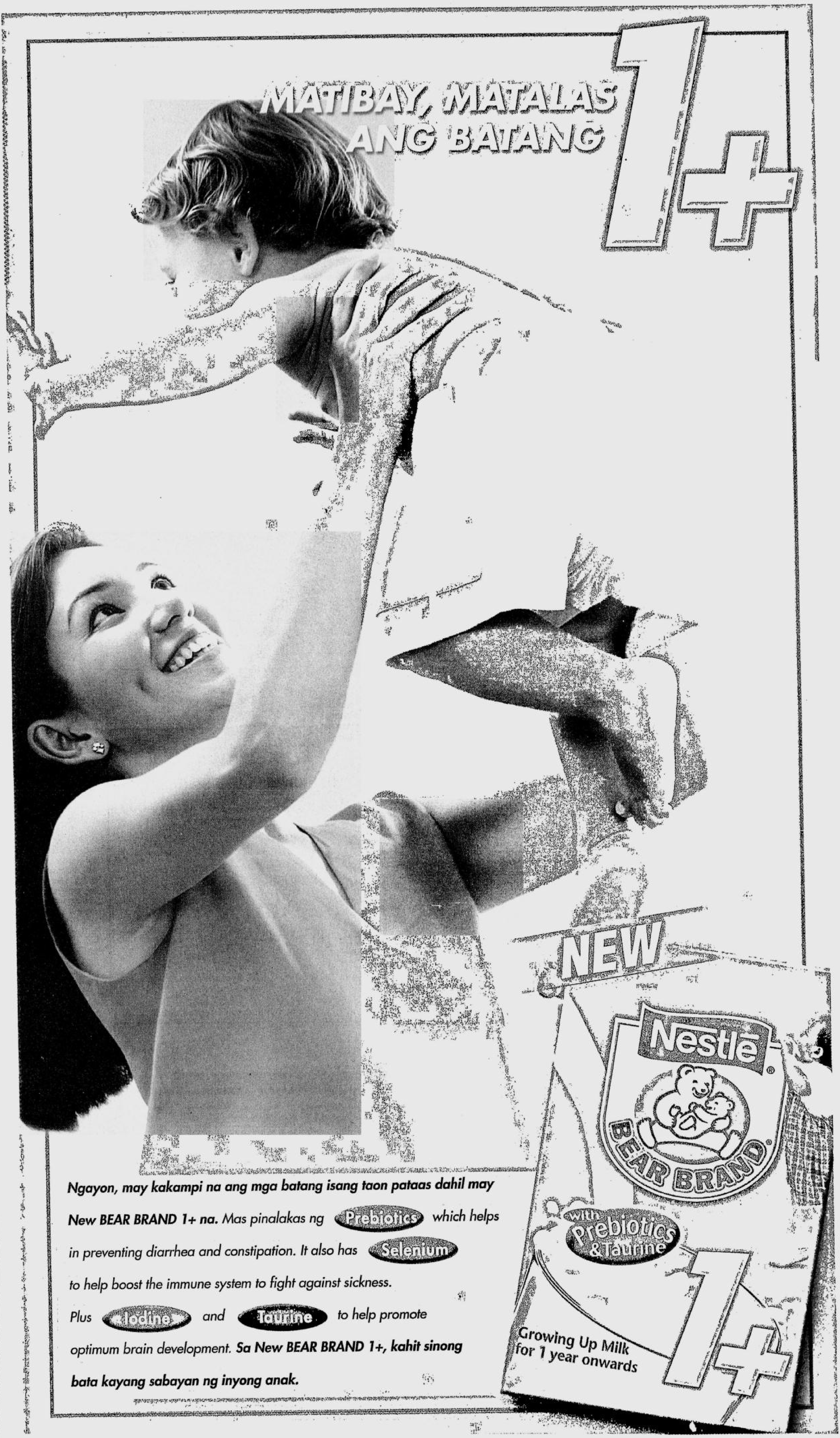
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Gov't troops raid NPA camp; 5 rebels captured

TROOPS raided a hideout of communist insurgents in Surigao del Sur, capturing five of them, the Southern Command military chief said yesterday.

Lt. Gen. Narciso Abaya said the raid Friday in Lianga town in Surigao del Sur province followed a tip-off.

"Villagers, victimized by the NPA (New People's Army), tipped off the military about the presence of the terrorists and five of them, including their leader, were captured," he said.

The NPA is the 9,000-member armed wing of the Communist Party of the Philippines, waging a 33-year rebellion. Earlier this year, it was placed on the US blacklist of "foreign terrorist organizations."

Peace talks between the government and the communists collapsed last year after the NPA killed two legislators. *AFP*

Greenpeace warns vs 'mutant soybean'

By Gerald G. Lacuarta

EASY on the tofu.

The environmentalist group Greenpeace yesterday called for the immediate rejection of soybean and soybean-based imports from the United States, following a scandal in Texas over crops contaminated with an industrial protein used in vaccinating pigs.

Beau Baconguis, Greenpeace Southeast Asia's anti-genetic engineering campaigner, said the "biotech scandal" could easily affect countries like the Philippines, which did not have adequate environment and consumer protection from genetically modified organisms (GMOs).

Greenpeace also urged Philippine authorities to require proof that the soybean crops and related products exported by the US are free from GMO contamination.

These moves were prompted by recent news that the US government earlier found 500,000 bushels (17.5 million liters) of soybeans contaminated by maize (corn) that had been genetically engineered to produce pharmaceuticals, or industrial proteins, for use in hog vaccine.

Texas-based biotechnology company ProdiGene was found to have mishandled its "pharm" crops twice in the past three months, resulting in contamination by unapproved, drug-producing crops.

Anthony Laos, ProdiGene chief executive officer, reportedly admitted that no human health tests had been conducted on the drug.

Baconguis said the issue had an enormous impact on the whole of Southeast Asia, since the US was a major supplier of soya products to the region. "The biotech industry is playing a dangerous experiment with our food," he warned.

Greenpeace was joined by other farmers and environmental organizations in the US yesterday in urging US President George Bush to ban open-field planting of genetically engineered drug crop or, better still, prohibit drug production in food crops altogether.

These groups have repeatedly warned that growing drug-producing crops in open fields instead of in laboratories inevitably resulted in contamination, as these crops could self-replicate and even cross-breed.

Two years ago, Baconguis said, nearly $1 billion worth of a gene-altered maize variety called Starlink had to be recalled worldwide after it was found unfit for human consumption.

DPWH officials in S. Tagalog face graft raps for misuse of Ping's pork

By C. Balana

SEN. Panfilo Lacson has ordered the filing of graft charges against officials of the Department of Public Works and Highways over the alleged overpricing of several projects funded through his Congressional Initiative Fund (CDF) or pork barrel in Laguna.

Charged before the Office of Ombudsman were several officials and personnel of the DWPH-Region IV-A office led by Regional Director Nestor Agustin, District Engineer Roberto Nicolas of the Laguna Engineering District and Caridad Advincula, an accountant.

Lacson said he wrote to Public Works Secretary Simeon Datumanong to immediately cause the filing of parallel administrative cases against the DPWH officials.

The graft complaint stemmed from the alleged overprice of construction materials used in the Majayjay, Laguna, water system.

An inspection team from Lacson's office found that the 6-inch diameter Goodyear UPCV pipe series 10 and the 2-inch G.I. pipes and couplings were reportedly overpriced by as much as P4.1 million.

Project records showed that the materials were bought for P6.185 million in separate purchase orders by the department.

A check conducted by the inspection team, however, showed that the manufacturer's price was only P1,991 for the same set of materials.

The team was composed of civil engineers and lawyers who volunteered their services to Lacson to help him monitor projects that were being funded out of his CDF.

Likewise, the inspection team also noted deficiencies in the following projects funded through the senator's CDF :

- Indang Water Supply Project in Indang, Laguna.
- Drainage System Project, Dasmariñas, Cavite.
- Concreting of Purok Green Valley Road, Barangay Ubaldo Laya in Iligan City.

Lacson earlier filed graft charges against two of his Senate employees after Mindanao-based contractors complained that they were demanding rebates and commissions in exchange for the award of government projects.

Tesda union up in arms over Liban's trainees

By Armand Nocum

UNDER-QUALIFIED "on-the-job trainees" are upsetting operations at the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (Tesda), according to its employees' union.

The Tesda Association of Concerned Employees-National Council this week asked President Macapagal-Arroyo to look into alleged problems caused by the hiring of 30 contractuals by the agency's director general, Dante Liban.

In an interview with the INQUIRER, union president Sonia S. Lipio said the new workers came from the second district of Quezon City, which Liban used to represent in Congress.

She said the contractuals, mostly in their 20s, were placed in sensitive positions that dealt with processing documents of overseas-bound entertainers and issuing the widely sought ARBs, or artist's record book, the working "visa" for Filipino performers.

"Tesda is not an agency for neophytes," the union stressed in its letter to Ms Macapagal.

On one occasion, Lipio said, a contractual processor left an ARB booklet in the office canteen. "You don't carry that form (around)," she said. "Unscrupulous persons would pay a large sum of money for it."

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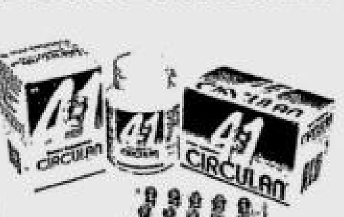

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Dec. 3	Alternative Health Care Modalities Business
Dec. 4	Ham and Bacon Specialties (*Lourdes S. Rivera, BAI*)

Homebusiness Courses

Nov 25-26	Creative Photography (Basic)
Nov 25-26	Setting up a Hardware and Construction Supply Store
Nov 26-27	Corsage and Bouquet Making
Nov 27	Setting up a Travel Agency
Nov 27-28	Laundry Soap and Detergents (*in cooperation with ITDI/DOST*)
Nov. 28-29	Operation and Management of a Gym and SPA (NEW) (*with field trip*)
Nov. 28-29	Establishing your own Gas/Filling Station (NEW)
Nov. 30-Dec. 1	Aromatic and Decorative Candle Making (*in cooperation with ITDI/DOST*)
Nov. 30-Dec. 1	Catering Business Operation
Nov. 30-Dec. 2	Event Planning, Marketing and Management
Nov. 30-Dec. 2	Operating a Laundry Shop Business (Small-Scale) (*with field trip*)
Dec. 2	Gift Wrapping for Christmas and Corporate Gift Packaging
Dec. 2-3	How to Start and Manage Janitorial Services (NEW)
Dec. 2-5	Silkscreen Printing
Dec. 4-5	Design and Operation of a Water Refilling Station Business (*with field trip*)
Dec. 4-5	Reflexology
Dec. 4-6	Fresh Flower Arrangement and Flower Shop Operation and Management (*with field trip*)
Dec. 5-6	Creative Photography (Basic)
Dec. 6	Setting up a Travel Agency

Dec. 7-8	Operating and Managing a Drugstore Enterprise (NEW)
Dec. 7-8	Dollar Trading/Foreign Currency Exchange
Dec. 7-8	Herbal Bath Soap (*in cooperation with ITDI/DOST*)

Agri/Aqua Courses

Nov. 25-29	Swine Production (*with field trip*)
Nov. 28-30	Orchid Growing and Nursery Management (*with field trip*)
Dec. 2-4	Mango Production (with Improved Flower Induction) and Post-Harvest Handling and Storage Technology (*with field trip*)
Dec. 6-7	Honeybee Culture (*with field trip*)
Dec. 7-9	Tilapia Culture (*with field trip*)

Food Courses

Nov 25-26	Processing of Chicharon and Other Pork By-Products
Nov 26-28	Coffee Shop Management and Operation (*with field trip*)
Nov 27	Flavored and Fortified Juice
Nov 28-29	International Cuisine (*Asian and European*)
Nov. 28-Dec. 1	Commercial Breadmaking and Bakery Management
Nov. 30-Dec. 1	Basic Meat Processing
Dec. 2-3	Specialty Cakes and Pastries
Dec. 4-5	Baked Christmas Goodies
Dec. 5-6	Chinese Dimsum
Dec. 6-9	Commercial Breadmaking and Bakery Management
Dec 7-8	Basic Meat Processing (*Lourdes S. Rivera, BAI*)

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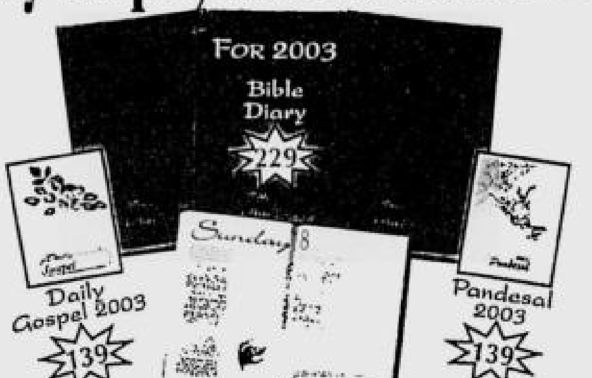

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Architectural Center Club to hold 40th anniversary

THE ARCHITECTURAL Center Club Inc. will mark its 40th anniversary on Nov. 26 with a breakfast forum on "Generating Projects Through Bond Flotation."

Other activities that will begin on the 25th are a construction tools and equipment bazaar at ACCI's Formoso Hall and consultations and healing with Chinese medical practitioner Dr. Peping Gao.

Tuesday's breakfast forum will feature resource speakers Vicente A. Laza, senior vice president, Local Guarantee Unit Grantee Corp.; Gener T. Mendoza, president, The Structural Financial Group Inc.; Valentino S. Bagatsing, first vice president, RCBC Capital Corp., and Rogel L. Zeñarosa, first vice president, trust dept., Philippine National Bank.

Marikina Mayor Marides C. Fernando will be the guest of honor at the opening of the tools exhibit on Monday. On Tuesday evening, MMDA Chairman Bayani Fernando will be the guest speaker at the anniversary dinner. All activities will be held at the ACCI building at Palma Street and Rockwell Drive, Bel Air Village, Makati City.

On Tuesday afternoon, there will be an on-the-spot painting contest to be followed by a Mass, cocktails, and the dinner where the welcome address will be delivered by ACCI president, engineer Rogelio M. Avenido.

An auction of paintings and raffle of club shares to non-member architects will follow, with musical entertainment and dancing to cap the celebration.

NCRFW LAUNCHES 16-DAY CAMPAIGN AGAINST GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE, URGES SENATE TO PASS ANTI-TRAFFICKING BILL

Chairperson Aurora Javate–de Dios of the National Commission on the Role of Filipino Women (NCRFW) urges the members of the Senate of the Philippines to immediately act on the proposed Anti-trafficking in Persons bill. "Everyday, traffickers are becoming more and more cunning in facilitating the flesh trade. Unless we act now and fast, our women will continually be trafficked for forced labor, sexual slavery or prostitution," de Dios said.

This call to action was made in response to the observance of the International Day of Action to Eliminate All Forms of Violence Against Women on November 25, which is also the start of the 16-day Campaign Against Gender-Based Violence. NCRFW is spearheading the campaign in coordination with the Violence Against Women Coordinating Committee (VAW-CC) and non-government organizations. This year's theme is **"LIGTAS SA KARAHASAN: KARAPATAN NG KABABAIHAN"**.

Highlight of this campaign is the massive advocacy and public awareness-raising on the issue of trafficking in persons, especially women and children. "This is also a wake-up call from the women sector for the legislators to finally pass the bill," de Dios said. The bill already passed the third reading at the House of Representatives last May 2002 and now awaits final deliberation and passage at the Senate.

Despite the rising incidence of trafficking, there is still has no law to penalize such act. Republic Act 6955 or the Anti Mail-Order Bride law only prohibits the matching of Filipino women for marriage to foreign nationals on a mail-order bride basis. Under this law, mail-order bride schemes are punishable with 6-8 years of imprisonment and a fine of P8, 000 to P20, 000 only.

Since the 11th Congress, the NCRFW, as the national machinery for the advancement of women and lead government agency that promotes the rights of Filipino women, has been advocating for the passage of the anti-trafficking bill. Among others, the bill proposes the creation of an inter-agency mechanism to: 1) apprehend illegal recruiters, pimps and others who facilitate the trade; 2) protect and support trafficked persons; and 3) initiate bilateral agreements between sending and receiving countries for legal and logistical support. It also imposes stiff penalties for the perpetrators and decriminalizes victims by removing culpability from them.

xxx

WOMEN'S CALL TO ACTION: PASS THE ANTI-TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS ACT OF 2002

"LIGTAS SA KARAHASAN: KARAPATAN NG KABABAIHAN"

16-Day Campaign to End Gender-Based Violence

Start:	NOVEMBER 25	International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women
End:	DECEMBER 10	International Human Rights Day

"Trafficking is the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or the giving or receiving of payments or benefits, for the purpose of exploitation" (Article 3, UN Protocol on Trafficking in Persons)"

WHY JOIN THE CAMPAIGN?

- Around nine (9) million people are enslaved in global sex trades by powerful syndicates in human trafficking (UN, 1999)
- The hidden nature of trafficking is as an obstacle in tracking down the extent of trafficking
- No national policy on transnational organized crimes exists;
- This act will penalize traffickers (including recruiters, bar and den owners, etc...) and provide social and economic services for victims and survivors
- **The Bill has been filed since the 9th Regular Session of Congress. We are now on the 12th Congress. How long will we wait?**

HOW to support the campaign:

- telephone advocacy: call the Senators and inform them of your support; call Senate at 552-6601
- mail/ fax letters of support/ encouragement: disseminate advocacy letters to our Legislators and concerned government officials or to editors and newsdesks: send fax letters to the Senate Committee on Youth, Women and Family Relations at 552-6750
- electronic advocacy: visit www.ncrfw.gov.ph for on-line registration of support, download information and campaign materials; and
- organize or be involved in the advocacy campaign activities: visit NCRFW website for a complete list of campaign activities
- inform us on your/ your organization's activities: you may reach NCRFW through Tel. 735-4955, Fax - 736-4449, email: stopvaw@ncrfw.gov.ph

Organized by the: **National Commission on the Role of Filipino Women (NCRFW)** and the government's Violence Against Women Coordinating Committee (VAWCC), in cooperation with NAPC Women's Sectoral Council, and Non-Government Organizations.

VAWCC Members: NCRFW, DSWD, DILG, DND, DOJ, BJMP, NAPOLCOM, PNP, DOH, Dep Ed., CSC NSCB, PIA, NBI, CHR

Airport barricade pays off for lawyer

By Chito A. Fuentes and Jhunnex Napallacan
PDI Visayas Bureau

TAGBILARAN CITY—A Bohol lawyer has proven that you can fight city hall.

Nerio Zamora had blocked off a portion of the Tagbilaran City airport runway on Thursday after the government repeatedly failed to pay him for his 1,351-sq. m. lot which was expropriated in the airport's expansion.

His action prevented PAL flights from Manila from landing and merited page one treatment in Saturday's INQUIRER.

Friday night, the Department of Transportation and Communications coughed up a check for P675,000 as payment for Zamora's lot.

After receiving the check, Zamora had the barricade of wood and rope removed.

"So it can be done. Why did they have to take that long and tax our patience?" Zamora said, of the delay in paying him.

He said the moral of the story was that people need to assert their rights in order to get them.

Zamora, former acting vice mayor this city and former chair of the Free Legal Assistance Group (Flag)-Bohol, said he had been promised payment for his lot not later than Dec. 31, 2001. He said he was the only property owner affected by the airport expansion who had not been paid.

At about 9 p.m. on Friday, Bohol Rep. Edgar Chatto of the first district personally turned over the P675,000 check to Zamora, representing payment for his lot at P500 per sq. m.

Chatto said he learned of Zamora's problem on Thursday morning from Bohol Gov. Erico Aumentado, who had an inkling of the action Zamora was going to take.

Chatto said he sought the help of Department of Budget and Management Undersecretary Mario Relampagos. Relampagos asked Chatto to give him 10 minutes to make a call to the DOTC.

"When he called me back, he said everything was solved," Chatto told the INQUIRER.

Naia 3 delay bad for tourism—Gordon

By N. Bordadora and A. Ho

TOURISM Secretary Richard Gordon said yesterday postponing the opening of Terminal 3 of the Ninoy Aquino International Airport from Dec. 15 to March next year would be a big setback to the government's tourism program.

And the Philippine International Air Terminals Co. Inc., builder of the controversial terminal, said that it stands to lose at least P22 million for every month the airport remains closed.

Gordon suggested the government allow the new terminal to open as soon as possible, since "we can conduct the necessary investigations surrounding the controversies" at the same time. Gordon met with reporters yesterday after returning from yet another trip abroad to promote Philippine tourism.

Gordon said opening Naia 3 would show the world the Philippines is prepared to receive tourists, particularly in observance of Visit the Philippines Year in 2003.

"A world-class airport is a must if we want to show that we are serious in promoting tourism," Gordon said.

For its part, Piatco said that for electricity alone, it has to pay around $10,000 daily.

Piatco chief executive officer Jeffrey Cheng said in an interview last week that at a P52 to $1 exchange rate, this would redound to a monthly expense of P15.6 million.

Aside from the electricity bills, Naia 3 general manager Guillermo Cunanan said Piatco would have to pay at least P3 million per month for janitorial services to maintain the new terminal.

He said that some P4 million to P5 million would have to be spent for security services within the terminal.

"All schedules of payments have been put in place but revenues won't be coming in because the terminal won't be opening (on Dec. 15)," Cunanan said.

Naia 3 was originally scheduled to open on Nov. 26 but this was put off because of shareholder issues. The Dec. 15 opening date was postponed because of "security issues."

DPWH denies Revilla RROW raps

By Armand N. Nocum

ROAD right-of-way (RROW) claims for Department of Public Works and Highways projects since 1997 have amounted to only P3 billion nationwide, according to the department's legal division.

DPWH chief lawyer Joel Jacob yesterday denied allegations by Sen. Ramon Revilla of a dramatic multi-billion increase in the claims.

In a statement, Jacob also said not all the petitions were being processed through the DPWH, and that claimants came from all over the country, not just Region 12, or Central Mindanao.

Public Works Secretary Simeon Datumanong, upon assumption of office in Feb. 2001, ordered strict screening procedures for the RROW claims, Jacob added.

Revilla, chair of the Senate public works committee, earlier filed a resolution seeking a probe of payments made on allegedly spurious claims.

The senator said a syndicate composed of DPWH officials, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Registers of Deeds and provincial treasurers' offices churned out questionable documents on which the claims were based.

He said the problem was most prevalent in Region 12.

In an interview, DPWH Region 12 Director Nata Pangarungan admitted encountering problems with people claiming properties where roads were constructed "from nineteen-forgotten."

But he said "other claims" were legitimate.

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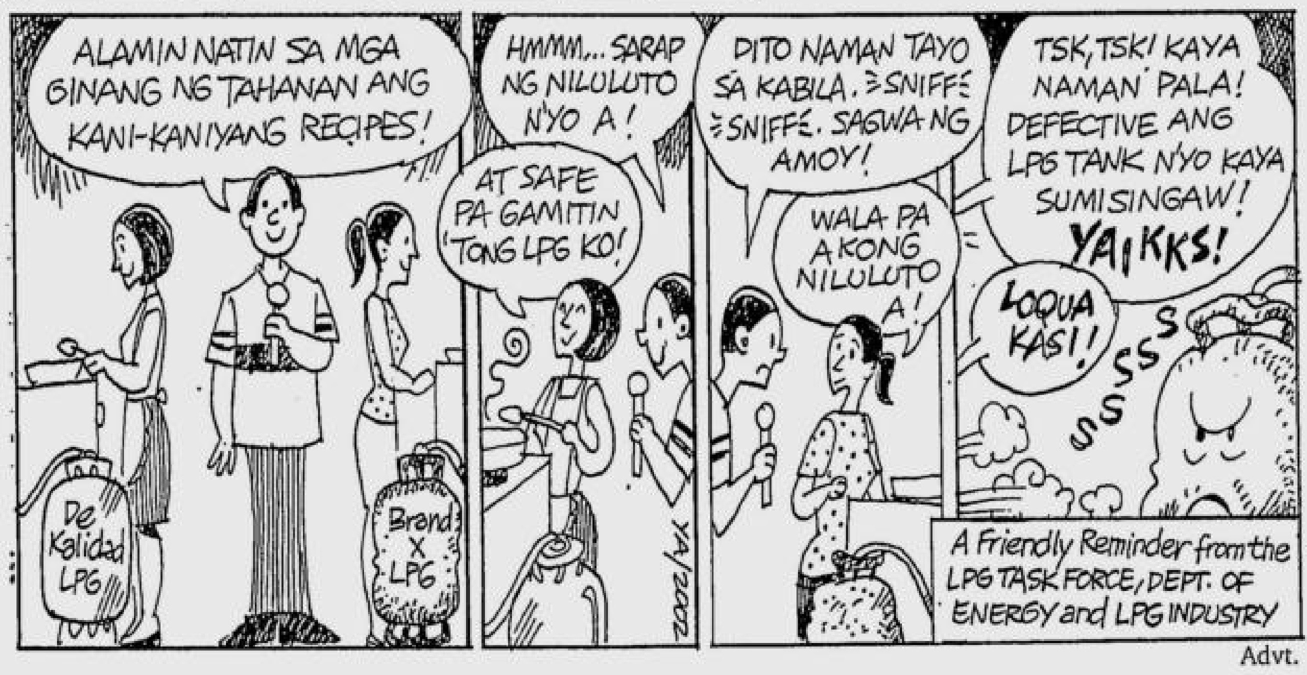
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The vulnerable

EDITORIALS

MISERY, it can almost be said, wears an Asian face. There are more refugees in Asia than anywhere else in the world, with at least four million people forced out of their country's borders and another four million "internally displaced"—that is, forced to relocate within their own country by conflict or other circumstance. The actual regional total is certainly higher, because there may literally be millions of refugees or evacuees who remain undocumented. The crisis is most concentrated in Pakistan and Iran, which together host about three million refugees from Afghanistan.

Some eight million Asians are afflicted with AIDS, accounting for a fifth of the official worldwide total. But some experts say the real numbers, especially in China and India, the world's most populous nations, may be much worse. By one estimate, there may be as many as 10 million AIDS cases in China alone. And last year, more than a million new infections were recorded across the Asia-Pacific region.

"Asia is likely to suffer the next big wave of the pandemic and unless we act now, the region will experience the same socio-economic devastation as elsewhere where family structures are breaking down, the numbers of orphans are rising dramatically and where development has been put back by decades," says Juan Manuel Suárez del Toro, president of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.

Natural disasters have also struck the hardest in Asia. In the last 10 years, according to the Red Cross, 70 percent of the world's disasters occurred in the region, and 80 percent of all victims were Asian.

The Red Cross federation's sixth Asia-Pacific Regional Conference, which begins today at the Manila Hotel, revolves around these three critical issues of population movement, the AIDS emergency and disaster management. In putting together the so-called Manila Action Plan, however, the 200 delegates from 63 countries in the Asia-Pacific and the Middle East will likely find one denominator common to all three: poverty.

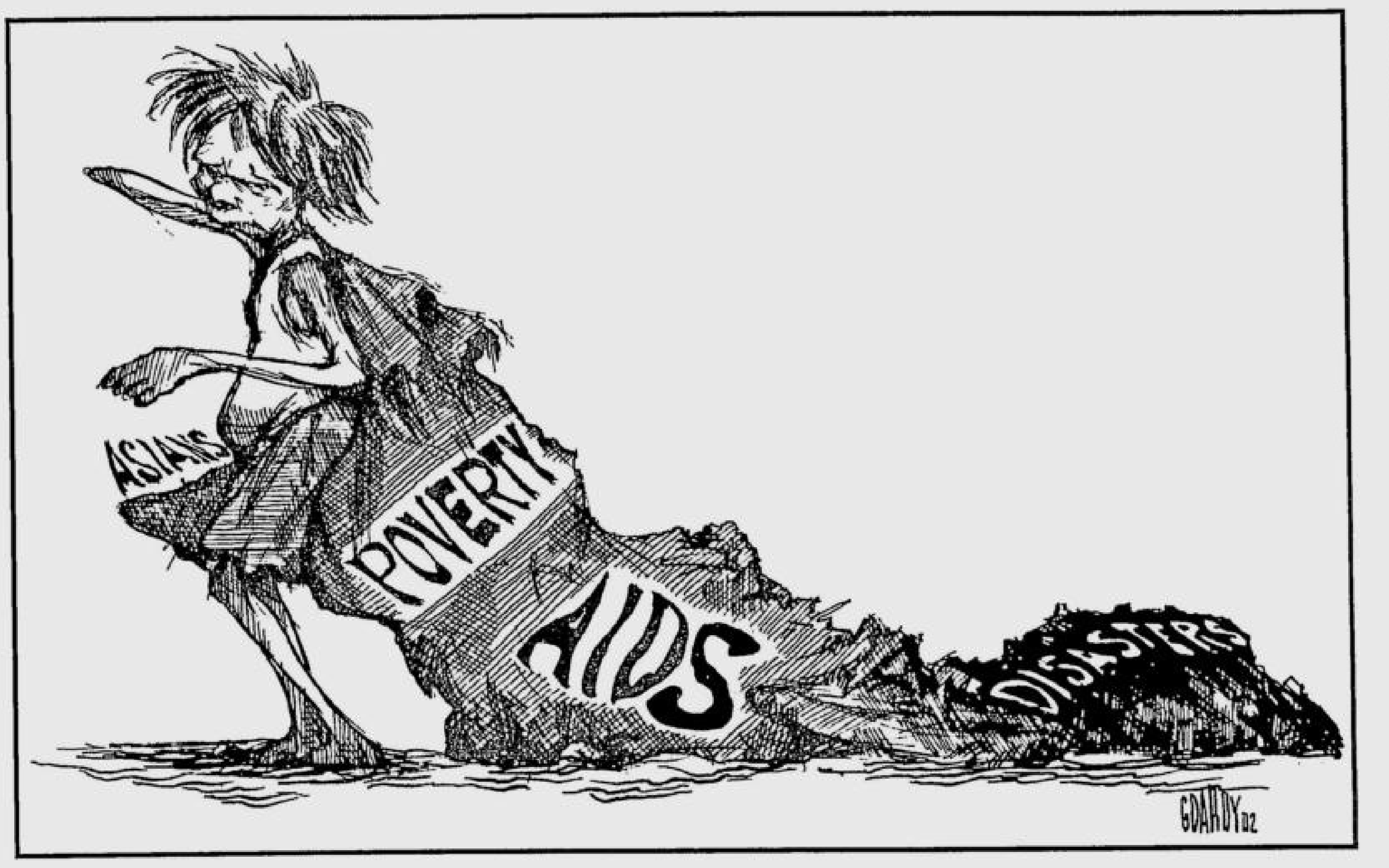
The teeming majority of victims are poor. In many ways, they are victims because they are poor. While it is true that natural disasters make no distinction between the socio-economic classes—rampaging lahar, for instance, does not distinguish between those who go to sleep in perfumed pajamas and those who cannot afford a change of clothes—those who have fewer economic opportunities are more at risk. Simply put, those who live behind cement walls and in two-story houses have a better chance of surviving than those who sleep in street-level shanties.

Social discrimination

BUT THE MAJORITY of AIDS victims are also poor. A host of poverty-related factors conspires against them: inadequate education, corrupt regulators, unhygienic brothels, a decrepit health infrastructure. What makes matters worse, what heightens the crisis, is itself a measure of the victims' poverty: social discrimination. They are ostracized as "social evils" by an often ignorant community, and because they have no sustainable means they cannot counter the sometimes fatal discriminatory practices.

By far, the victims of forced migration are also mainly poor. Many of those who can afford it fly out of an area in conflict; many of those who travel on foot and now live in temporary tents and makeshift houses could not afford to do otherwise. But the cycle of vulnerability does not end there. The refugee—and the AIDS-afflicted, too, and the natural disaster victim—quickly proves vulnerable to other problems, such as economic deprivation, malnutrition and human rights violations.

About a decade ago, the Red Cross movement redefined its mission as helping the vulnerable around the world. The confluence of issues that will be sorted out by humanitarians and experts in Manila this week makes clear that—aside from much-needed contingency measures for very real emergencies—antipoverty measures must be at the center of the discussion.



The President and the Cabinet

SEPARATE OPINION

Isagani A. Cruz

RECENT speculations about the revamp of the Cabinet have again raised misconceptions about the relations of the President of the Philippines with the members of the Cabinet. Let me make a little lecture on the subject, for the benefit of the general citizenry, including not a few lawyers.

The basic constitutional provision is Art. VII, Sec. 18, reading as follows:

"The President shall have control of all the executive departments, bureau and offices. He shall ensure that the laws be faithfully executed."

"Control" is defined as "the power of the officer to alter or modify or nullify or set aside what a subordinate officer has done in the performance of his duties and to substitute the judgment of the former for that of the latter."

Theoretically, the President has full control of all members of the Cabinet. He may appoint them as he sees fit, shuffle them at pleasure, and replace them in his discretion without any inhibition. It is true that there are political or practical considerations that may limit his control over them. But from the purely legal standpoint, the members of the Cabinet are subject at all times to the disposition of the President because they are merely his alter ego.

As the Supreme Court put it in Villena v. Roque, 67 Phil. 451, "without minimizing the importance of the heads of various departments, their personality is in reality but the projection of that of the President." Accordingly, "their acts, performed and promulgated in the regular course of business, are, unless disapproved or reprobated by the Chief Executive, presumptively the acts of the Chief Executive."

Sec. 17 is a self-executing provision. The President derives his power of control directly from the Constitution and not from any implementing legislation. Such a law is unnecessary and will even be invalid if it limits the exercise of this power or withdraws it altogether from him.

In various cases, the Supreme Court has held that a power exclusively vested by Congress in a department secretary may be exercised directly by the President; that a law making a decision of such officer final and unappealable could not prevent the President from reviewing and reversing it; and that an order of the justice secretary to reinstate two agents of the NBI was in legal effect an order of the President.

The common notion is that in the exercise of his power of control, the President may remove any member of the Cabinet at any time or for any reason. As a face-saving gesture, the President may simply tell him to resign and thus also effectively remove him from his position.

This may be legal quibbling, but strictly speaking, removal is not the means by which the Cabinet member is eased out of his position. This is effected by another mode of terminating official relations known as expiration of the term. Removal means the forcible separation of the incumbent before the end of his term. Expiration of the term operates automatically upon the completion of the period during which the incumbent is authorized to act.

In Alajar v. Alba, 100 Phil. 683, a person was appointed vice mayor of a city to serve at the President's pleasure. After one year, another person was appointed in his place. The former objected, saying he was being removed in violation of his security of tenure. The Supreme Court held, through then Justice Roberto Concepcion, that the petitioner was not being removed; he had merely been replaced because his term, as fixed by the President, had already expired.

Resignation is another mode of terminating official relations. It is defined as a formal method of renunciation coupled with the physical act of relinquishment of the office and subject to approval by the superior authorities. This was the method by which Vice President Teofisto Guingona (and his predecessors Emmanuel Pelaez and Salvador H. Laurel) quit as secretary of foreign affairs after a falling-out with the President.

In view of talk of their possible replacement by President Macapagal-Arroyo, the members of her current Cabinet reportedly reached a consensus to file courtesy resignations to give her a free hand with the apprehended reorganization. But Ms Gloria's spokesmen assured them that there was no such plan and the consensus was abandoned. I suppose this was done with a collective sigh of relief, especially from those who were prepared to get the ax.

This does not mean, however, that the Cabinet members are off the hook. Under the Alajar ruling, all of them are serving at the pleasure of the President, who is authorized by the Constitution itself to fix their term at any period she sees fit. It could be one week or one month or one year or longer or shorter in her discretion. Under her constitutional power of control, any or some or all of them can be sent packing off at any time in the sound wisdom or mere caprice of Ms Gloria.

But what if a department head is found to be involved in a criminal act and the President decides to end his term and thus separate him from the Cabinet? Would that disciplinary action suffice? That errant official may still be tried in a court of law and, if convicted, punished for his crime.

Are you all right?

MOMENTS

Fr. Jerry M. Orbos, SVD

DID you hear the story about a man who lost his left arm and left leg in a car accident? He is in the hospital.

He is ALL RIGHT now!

* * *

The Gospel today (Mt. 25:31-46) speaks of the final judgment, when Christ the King will separate us according to our deeds. I hope we will be all right and find ourselves on the right side, because we did the right thing while we were still alive. The bottom line is that we will be judged according to the presence or absence of love in our lives. Yes, there will be one final exam. The beautiful thing is that we already know what question will be asked: When I was hungry, did you give me food? When I was sick, did you visit me?

God will not ask how rich we are or how powerful we are... All He will ask us is what love, what goodness we have done in our lives. Are you living a life of goodness and love? Work on love, and you will be all right.

* * *

Depending on which side you are in, the reality of the Final Judgment could be a source of fear or consolation. Those who keep on doing wrong should be afraid because there is a final judgment. Those who are striving for righteousness should be consoled with the thought that their goodness will not be futile. How come bad people seem to prosper while good people seem to suffer in this life? Yes, so it seems, but it is not so, because they will be punished, and the good will be rewarded. God knows everything. God does not sleep. God has the final say.

* * *

What are you living for? Just for yourself? What is your agenda in life? Just your own agenda? There must be something or someone aside from yourself to live for, otherwise, you end up selfish, self-centered, miserable and unhappy in this life, and, in the life to come. Unless and until we live for something or someone greater than ourselves, we will not know what life really is all about. Do you have a King from whom you got directions? Or, is it still just the I, the me, and myself all these years, all along? Wake up from your illusions and personal ambitions. Life is short. Life is not about self-fulfillment and self-gratification. Life is self-transcendence, love and mission.

* * *

The Kingdom of God is not something territorial. It is the presence of God, and the presence of the values of the kingdom like peace, justice and love in our midst. What have you done to help spread the presence of God in your life? Has the world become more angry, more pained, more dirty because you passed by? Remember that we will pass through this world but once. So, walk the earth with love, lots of love.

* * *

Someone texted me this question: If Jesus were alive today, what car would he drive with his apostles? The answer is in the Bible where it is clearly stated that they came in one ACCORD!

Levity aside, we all must be busy working for peace, unity and love, wherever we are, whatever we do. May we all live peaceful lives and become instruments of peace and stop becoming the source of hurts, divisions and unrighteousness.

Are you the reason why there is no peace in your family? Are you the reason why there is lack of peace and progress in our country or in the world? You and I may not be much, but remember, we all can do our share in our own little way to serve our King and spread His Kingdom!

* * *

Want to serve Christ the King? Resign. Yes, resign from being the king of your own life. Resign from values and deeds that run contrary to His Kingdom. Resign from worldly kings you have made for yourself and from worldly kingdoms and conquests that hinder you from His kingdom. Resign now, and sign up for duty for Christ the King!

* * *

"Grant me Oh Lord, a steady hand, a watchful eye so that no one will be hurt as I pass by." This is a beautiful driver's prayer. But come to think of it, this prayer is not only for drivers, but for each and everyone of us. May we hurt no one as we pass by this earth. And if we did, make a decision to stop hurting people and this earth from now on. Remember, what we do out of lust and selfishness will hurt others. But what we do for love will help others. So, stop hurting, and start loving, from now on.

* * *

"Give till it hurts... give till it hurts no more." Ironically, giving and loving will have to involve hurting. Not hurting others, but hurting even oneself, and not minding the hurts because of a decision to give and to love even, and especially so, when it hurts. It is not enough then to decide to stop hurting others. We must complete this with a decision to love, till it hurts—and till it hurts no more, because of love.

So much for words. The proof of the loving is in the doing. The Final Judgment will be the final reckoning. I hope you and I will be all right then.

* * *

Next Sunday is already the First Sunday of Advent, the time for preparation for the birthday of Christ. In the next few days, external preparations for Christmas will become more evident. May we not forget the internal preparations, which require of us not evidence but personal diligence.

* * *

A Moment with the Lord

Lord, grant that no one will be hurt but many will be loved because I passed by. Amen.

More 'mansions' in the Church

COMMENTARY

Asuncion David Maramba

LAST Nov. 10, we described three "mansions in the House of the Lord": the vast majority making up the unique Filipino blend of folk religiosity and Spanish influence, the small critical mass of "thinking" Catholics (and I'm not saying that the rest don't think), and the powerful conservatives. Here are three more.

A big one and still growing are the "renewed" Catholics, also called charismatics and born-again. "Praise the Lord" and "Amen" which they say with all their hearts are often on their lips. Quite a number of them have chosen to move apart as "Christians," but in or out of the Catholic fold and by whatever label, almost every family has one or two or three. If there is any group that has resurrected the Bible from obscurity, sometimes carrying it to the edges of fundamentalism, it is they. Quite effusive, they are "alive-alive" in a way that more staid Catholics cannot bring themselves to be. Let nobody thumb his nose when they say that "the Spirit is in us," for the spirit does flow out in fervor, in action and in a vitality that has attracted young people and adults.

They go by love-filled names like Spirit of Love Community, Buklod ng Pag-ibig, Bukas Loob sa Diyos, Oasis of Love, Brotherhood of Christian Businessmen and Professionals. Perhaps the most dynamic is Couples for Christ, nationwide, and even overseas. These groups have harnessed effective lay speakers and lay sharers (as the official Church has not), like Bo Sanchez and entire panels for the LSS (Life in the Spirit Seminar) or CLP (Christian Life Program) replicated in countless parishes in the country.

Another very vital group is the BEC (Basic Ecclesial Communities) composed of cells of 8 to 15 families living close together. The BEC is the Church at its basic, local level, at the grass roots. These quietly laboring BECs are like the NGOs to the government—often cash-strapped, without fanfare or publicity and "so little recognized." But it is the one Church model that takes on the whole man and the gamut of his community's concerns—spiritual, socio-economic-political, educational. This is especially suited to the grass roots and the poor where needs are legion (and most of our country is poor). It is in fact the Church structure of choice, reported to cover 71 percent of the 77 dioceses in the country.

Unfortunately, when the BEC moves to urban and more prosperous areas, it gets emasculated or is resisted by traditional organizations which understandably protect their turfs—not to mention the "lukewarmness of the Vatican," perhaps because of its spiritual connection to Liberation Theology.

There is a third mansion that is even quieter, precisely because its very core is stillness. It is a "new" mysticism drawing many followers compelled by a yearning to get to the very source of life within, to journey to the very center of the soul, to distill oneself almost to "nada" and let the Light flow in. "Emptying," "centering," "flowing"; by whatever name, meditation is at its center, drawing not only from early Catholic mysticism but markedly from Oriental modes.

Spirituality is its buzzword, not religion. The God-me relationship may be sought within the matrix of the Church, making for a powerful, prayer group. But some choose direct lines when established religion no longer satisfies. Look around, there are meditation groups in churches, in homes, even in malls. The contemplative renewal may catch fire and turn into a "revolution." Why not—among our people said to be blest with a natural mysticism and in these isles said to be the abode of a vibrant spirit world?

Add to these any number of extensions: the army of "mandated" organizations, the strong force in the heyday of "Catholic Action" in the 1950s and 1960s, now aging perhaps but without whom many parishes could be paralyzed; the El Shaddai with Mike Velarde's one million strong; the manangoniacs (naughty coinage of my seminarian students), original prayer warriors from dawn to sunrise, from dusk to nightfall.

Food for thought: To which model or idea of Church is each of the six "mansions" connected?

The first big mansion with the vast majority of Catholics quite content in the blend of folk and Spanish Catholicism will generally identify with the Institutional Church. And hand in glove, perhaps even more tightly, are the conservatives and the Institutional Church. It's "God out there."

The renewed Catholics and the BECs are close variations of Church as the People of God; the first as communities from different locales brought together by common visions and capabilities, the second as small communities living close to each other and in similar circumstances. It's "God with us."

The contemplatives are drawn, of course, to the Mystical Church. It's "God in us." As for that small "thinking" critical mass, they, I guess, would prefer to be free of attachments or classifications.

How does one view these different "ways of being Church" and what prospects does this scenario bring to the future of the Church?

Asuncion David Maramba is a retired professor, book editor and occasional journalist.

* * *

Comments to marda@info.com.ph ; fax 8210659

Soap power

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

WHY use soap operas to educate the public and bring about social change?

Because, says Bill Ryerson of the Population Media Center, they are so much more effective than other forms of mass media. As opposed to documentaries or single-episode dramas, says Ryerson, serial dramas, soap operas, telenovelas or teledramas "allow time for the audience to form bonds with the characters and allow characters to evolve in their thinking and behavior with regard to various issues at a gradual and believable pace in response to problems that have been well-illustrated in the storyline."

The power to create role models, to model behavior, attitudes and relationships that the audience can be moved to imitate, is the entertainment media's secret weapon.

And this the soap opera does by creating characters that viewers or listeners can relate to, and, more importantly, aspire to become. Why else do companies squabble to have the leads of the most popular soaps wear their merchandise on air? Because viewers will want to buy the products in their desire to imitate and become those characters. And why do parents name their children after their favorite soap characters? Because the illusion of intimacy has transformed these characters into friends and family members.

Soap operas are particularly useful in communicating socially useful messages in countries with a large illiterate or barely functionally literate population.

In the Philippines, while the readership of newspapers and magazines has fallen drastically, ownership of radios and TV sets is fast reaching total coverage, especially in urban areas. The broadcast media have become the most powerful teacher of young and old, for good or bad.

* * *

RYERSON, who was in the country recently with Kriss Barker, PMC vice president for international programs, to explore new collaborations with institutions in Asia, believes the "emotional" impact of soap operas is the key to sparking social change, as it combines "motivation with information."

Take the issue of family planning. In the last two decades, says Ryerson, "most of the global effort to deal with the population problem has been focused on the 'medical model'—making contraceptive services available to people throughout the world. Relatively little has been done to market the need for their use or to convince people to adopt the small family ideal...While a high percentage of couples now have access to responsible parenthood services...many couples in developing countries still want five, six or seven children."

Surveys have shown that even when couples had all the information they needed on family planning, including where they could access the methods, many of them were still poorly motivated to use family planning. "Among the reasons given for not using contraception by women who are not pregnant and do not want to become pregnant, very few cited lack of access to contraceptives," says Ryerson. "The top reasons were: (1) lack of knowledge, (2) concern with the medical effects of contraceptives, and (3) opposition from the husbands. These are all issues which must be dealt with through cultural interventions and motivational communications."

* * *

ONE of the TV soaps I've been following is "Sa Puso Ko Iingatan Ka," which airs weekday evenings on Channel 2. Its leads are Judy Ann Santos and Piolo Pascual, who are not just hugely popular individually, but command a large following as a "love team."

Some months ago, Patricia and Jordan, Judy Ann's and Piolo's characters, decided to get married civilly. I thought this was rather unusual since soaps usually try to extend the "love angle" as far as it would go, keeping the fate of star-struck lovers a mystery for as long as the audience could bear it.

Jordan and Patricia's marriage, I thought, was a golden opportunity to get two soap characters to begin talking about family planning. After all, they were already married and facing tremendous financial pressure and all sorts of complications from their respective families. Imagine the impact of having this couple talk about their future, plan their family and assess their resources. They need not even have talked about methods. Just the act of sitting down together and jointly planning their lives would have had tremendous impact on the behavior of their fans.

* * *

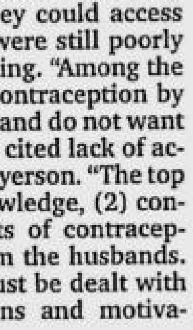
AS it happened, Patricia did get pregnant (even if Jordan suffered from erectile dysfunction for a while), only to lose the child after a series of mishaps and shocks. Just recently, the couple decided to get married in church, but the show's writers chose to use the occasion as a background to another frustrated murder attempt (let's not get into that).

It still isn't too late to have the couple talk about their life together, instead of lurching from one crisis to the next as the soap currently has them doing. In fact, I think the audience would welcome at this point some form of respite from the current story line of murder, mayhem and revenge. I mean, how many ordinary viewers confront masked murderers and bomb threats? Come to think of it...

Anyway, this should prove my point that even the current crop of soaps have room in their story lines for "discussions" of current social issues. We've been called the "Soap Opera Capital of the World," what with the number of soap operas on local radio and TV, and the impressive ratings they command. These same ratings should be seen by producers as an opportunity to experiment and introduce some social content, after all, the numbers aren't going to go down anytime soon, and the audience can be counted on to stay tuned.

Two heroes, two nations

PUBLIC LIVES



Randy David

CUBA'S deputy foreign minister, Jose Guerra, came to the University of the Philippines the other day to give a lecture on Cuba's relation to the world. The point of his lecture was to show that despite the blockade by which the United States has tried to strangle his tiny country for the last 40 years, Cuba is far from being an isolated nation. It maintains embassies in almost every major capital except the United States, sends thousands of its engineers and doctors to assist poor nations, and regularly receives large numbers of young people from all over the world to study in its universities.

If there is a nation in Asia, Guerra said, with whom Cuba feels a strong affinity, it is the Philippines. Our national heroes were both named Jose—Jose Marti and Jose Rizal. They both imagined their evolving nations from the perspective of exile. They were both great writers. They died within a year of one another, Marti at 42, and Rizal at 35. Marti was killed in 1895 in the Cuban War of Independence against Spain, and Rizal was executed in 1986 after he became, against his own wish, the soul of the 1896 Philippine Revolution.

But more than the coincidences in the lives of these two heroes, it is the historical parallelisms of the two nations that are a source of enduring fascination. Minister Guerra was naturally too diplomatic to mention the divergent paths our countries took at the moment of revolution. For, despite their similar beginnings, no two countries are perhaps more different today both in social composition and in their concept of nationhood than the Philippines and Cuba.

Cuba remains staunchly socialist in its vision, while the Philippines cannot see a future beyond that of a dependent market economy. Despite its problems, Cuba is bent on creating an egalitarian society, whereas the Philippines seems content to leave the gaps in wealth and opportunity among its people to the vagaries of the market. Education is a responsibility of the state and is free in Cuba at all levels, but the Philippines would rather treat education as an arena for private enterprise. Cuba, a small nation of 11.5 million people, tries very hard to be self-sufficient in food and basic medicines, while we, with a population of 80 million, are content to import basic necessities and export people. My point is not to argue that Cuban socialism may be good for us, but simply to say there has got to be a better system than what we have today.

Some may argue that Cuba, with its obsolete cars and rundown buildings, is a lot poorer than the Philippines. That may be true if we measure wealth in terms of modern malls, fast cars, cable television, cellular phones and interconnected computers. But half of our people who have no access to these amenities, not to mention their chronic lack of more basic things, will surely disagree. We don't know of course how many Filipinos would prefer to live in Cuba, with its strong emphasis on national discipline, but I am sure their idea of Filipino citizenship does not include being treated as social and economic outcasts in their homeland.

I am aware that concepts of a desirable life vary from culture to culture, and that it is often pointless to make comparisons simply because the historical contingencies that attend the birth of nations vary greatly. Even so, it is good for the national soul to imagine that Cuba could have been our country.

Because of its geographical proximity to the United States, Cuban revolutionaries found a refuge in America in which to prepare their country's liberation from Spain. Jose Marti, exiled from Cuba, spent 15 years of his life in New York, organizing fellow exiles and winning political sympathy among Americans for the Cuban revolution. The rebellion to free Cuba was launched in 1895. By early 1896, the rebels were in every province. Marti's revolutionary program meant not only to secure national independence, but also to create a social revolution. By 1898, Spain was on the verge of defeat. American sugar barons in Cuba became convinced that an independent Cuba in the hands of social rebels would be injurious to their interests, and started to promote annexation. They prodded President McKinley to intervene. When McKinley requested for a mandate from Congress, he did not mention Cuban independence. But Congress supporters for Cuban freedom pushed for a provision that disavowed US sovereignty over Cuba.

When the United States entered the war, Cuban rebels were pushed to the margins, and the war became a Spanish-American War. At the Paris Peace Conference of Dec. 10, 1898, the United States dictated the terms under which the new Cuba would take shape. In May 1902, the Cuban Republic was installed, led by people handpicked by the United States. It was a neocolony in every sense. Four years later, the United States seized control over the country once again to stop a civil war that was destroying US business holdings. The occupation ended in 1909, but American control continued through a succession of US-sponsored dictatorships.

Rebels led by Fidel Castro ended the dictatorship of Fulgencio Batista in 1959, and launched a republic that was not only free from America but also faithful to the social vision of Jose Marti. In 1961, the United States imposed a blockade that sought to isolate a socialist Cuba from the rest of the world. Cuba has paid dearly for its stubborn insistence to remain a truly independent nation. Cubans today have little by way of conventional wealth, but they are rich in what they call "orgullo nacional"—national pride. Some Filipinos, of course, will say you cannot eat that. That's where values differ.

* * *

Comments to rdavid@pacific.net.ph

Counterpart funds for foreign grants

COMMENTARY

Raul J. Palabrica

THE CLOCK is ticking on some P1 billion in grants that Japan and Australia promised to give to the Philippines to improve the educational facilities of selected schools in various regions.

The two donor countries have offered to provide classrooms, science laboratories and other teaching equipment, including training for developmental skills, to students and teachers of 1,391 schools outside Metro Manila. The Japanese and Australian governments have earmarked Y1.93 billion (or P795 million) and A$4.85 million (or P121.3 million), respectively, for these projects. On top of the financial assistance, Australia has expressed its willingness to make available the services of its English, science and mathematics instruction experts to train Filipino teachers and principals in handling those subjects.

Like most official development assistance programs, Japan and Australia have asked the Philippine government, in particular, the Department of Education, to put up counterpart funds that would support the implementation of the projects.

The matching contribution is aimed at ensuring the DepEd's commitment to the success of the plans. If only to prevent its financial share from going to waste, the DepEd would be encouraged to monitor the developments in the projects after the personnel of the donor countries have completed their assigned tasks.

On the part of the students and faculty members who stand to benefit from the upgraded facilities and training, the knowledge that part of the taxes they paid went to the foreign-assisted programs would engender a "sense of ownership" that can inspire them to preserve and make full use of the innovations.

Token share

Compared to the amount of the grants, the counterpart funds that the DepEd is obliged to put up are not substantial. They are, at best, token or symbolic in nature.

For example, in one of the projects for Region 3, the Japanese government has agreed to pay for 93 percent, or P800,000, of the cost of building a classroom with furniture and other facilities. The balance of P60,000, which represents 7 percent of the total project cost, has to be shouldered by the DepEd. This counterpart fund will be used for site preparation, slope protection, security fence, water system and electrical connections. In other words, it will defray the costs for making the school premises safe and conducive to learning.

Another project in Mindanao that seeks to improve the teaching of English, science and mathematics subjects would have the Australian government footing 76 percent of the bill, and the DepEd paying for the remaining 24 percent. The latter contribution would be principally applied to the expenses for coordinating and monitoring the activities of the training personnel.

Summing up, the counterpart fund that the DepEd has to raise to make P1 billion worth of education grants reach their intended beneficiaries is roughly P38 million. This is not a one-time disbursement, but would be spread out over 2003 and 2004.

The ball is now in the court of Congress. It has to allocate funds in the DepEd's 2003 budget to enable it to meet its financial obligations in the improvement programs that Japan and Australia have offered.

Deficit

Admittedly, the country is suffering from serious revenue problems that compel the government to tighten its belt and scrimp on its expenses. The fiscal authorities have to address the difficult task of deciding on where the government's limited resources should go without impairing the delivery of basic social and economic services to the people.

In such a situation, the Constitution is clear: the state is mandated to give the highest budgetary priority to education. This firm admonition is anchored on the principle that the progress of a nation is determined by the quality of its citizens. A well-educated citizenry is the key to a strong and progressive republic.

If Congress fails to appropriate money for the counterpart funds, Japan and Australia will most likely withdraw the offered grants. The unused yen or dollar allocations will revert to the coffers of the donor countries or be channeled to other Third World countries with similar education problems as ours. These countries will only be too glad to grab the opportunity. The Philippines' loss will be their gain.

With the withdrawal of the grants, all the time, money and effort spent by the representatives of the donor countries and the DepEd in discussing, negotiating and finalizing the terms and conditions of the financial assistance would go down the drain.

The cancellation of the financial assistance would also send the wrong signals to other countries that may want to extend financial assistance to the Philippines in the improvement of its educational system. For Japan and Australia, there may not be a second time if the offered grant is aborted due to lack of counterpart funds.

Money search

The loudest gnashing of teeth would probably come from the teachers of the schools listed as beneficiaries of the improvement project. And if the faculty members feel frustrated by the cancellation of a program that would improve the quality of school education, the students would not be far behind in sharing their grief for another broken government promise.

To a determined budget analyst or lawmaker, finding the money to meet the DepEd's needs for counterpart funds does not require the brains of a rocket scientist. There are a thousand and one items in the proposed 2003 national budget that can be removed or reduced without upsetting whatever social and economic targets the government may have set for itself next year.

The House of Representatives will not lose face if it gives up one or two supposedly official foreign trips of its members. The same goes for the members of the Senate who consider it their birthright to go to Geneva or New York during their breaks to attend international parliamentary conferences of dubious value.

The representation expenses, intelligence funds and provisions for the purchase of new cars by government offices can be pared down and the "savings" collated to form the counterpart funds the DepEd sorely needs to save the grants offered by Japan and Australia.

Whoever finds a solution to this problem will have the eternal gratitude of the thousands of students all over the country who stand to benefit from improved classrooms and educational facilities.

Please send feedback to jsarmiento@inquirer.com.ph

TALK of the TOWN

Editor Juan V. Sarmiento Jr.

What should we do with Meralco?

FOR defying an order of the Energy Regulatory Board four years ago, Manila Electric Co. is now compelled to return a total of about P28 billion in overcharges that it collected starting 1994.

The amount is nearly three times the P10.8 billion in overcharges from 1994 to February 1998 that the ERB had ordered Meralco to return to its more than three million customers.

A unanimous decision by the Supreme Court's Third Division is paving the way for the huge refund. The decision establishes that a utility must not include in its operating expenses income tax payments and assets not directly related to the business.

Allowing Meralco, a company insulated from competition, to pass on the tax burden to consumers is unfair to companies that face competition but are subject to income tax.

The landmark Supreme Court decision opens a window of opportunity for the government and the public to re-examine the regulatory policies on the whole energy sector and on other public utilities, which are also passing on to consumers their income taxes.

There are proposals that Meralco pay small consumers with cash and big ones with bonds, or that it issue consumers shares of stock and give them seats on the board. Malacañang, for its part, is seeking to wrest control of the company from the Lopezes.

'Meralco's profitability was almost double the allowable rate'

Its profitability, as measured by the return on rate base rose to 21 percent, way beyond the 12-percant ceiling, after getting a provisional increase of 18.4 centavos per kWh in 1994

By Neptali Franco
Former chair,
Energy Regulatory Board (ERB)

HAD Meralco followed the ERB order in February 1998 and implemented a rollback and a refund, it could have recovered from the impact of that decision and may already be entitled to a new rate increase by now.

Instead, Meralco objected to the ERB order for it to rollback its rates by 16.7 centavos per kWh and refund its customers a total of P10.8 billion in overcharges it collected from 1994 to February 1998. On the strength of a provisional authority, the utility firm raised its rates by 18.4 centavos per kWh in 1994.

The company brought the case against the ERB in 1998 to the Court of Appeals where it received favorable judgment. But the Third Division of the Supreme Court unanimously overturned the CA ruling on Nov. 15.

The high court restored the 1998 ERB decision that was largely based on a Commission on Audit (COA) report. The report found the rate increase of 18.4 centavos per kWh given to Meralco in 1994 exceeded the 12-percent maximum ceiling of profitability for public utilities as measured by the return-on-rate-base (RORB).

By Meralco's own calculation, the order of the Supreme Court would mean a P28-billion refund, or nearly three times the amount when the ERB I chaired handed out the order for Meralco to rollback its rates and refund its customers.

There is no doubt that the impact on Meralco of the high court's decision would be more severe today than what it would have been four years ago.

The Supreme Court decision will also likely affect Meralco's petition for a rate increase, which the energy sector calls the unbundling of electricity rates.

Meralco has a pending petition before the Energy Regulatory Commission (ERC), formerly the ERB, for a 30-centavo per kWh increase in its distribution rate and for a P1.12 per kWh adjustment in its rates based on how it computed the impact of the unbundling.

The landmark Supreme Court decision establishes that utilities must not include income tax payments and assets not directly related to the business in the operating expenses.

Surely, the ERC would have to consider the order of the highest court of the land when it decides on the petitions for a rate increase being sought by power utilities, including Meralco.

Before the Supreme Court decision, there was no Philippine jurisprudence on how a utility firm should compute its rate adjustments particularly with respect to the treatment of income tax and assets not directly related to the business.

The lack of local jurisprudence in 1998 was the reason why many people felt that the decision of the ERB, a quasi-judicial body, would not pass the legal test when brought by the defendant to the higher court.

Meralco relied substantially on US jurisprudence in defending its computation of its RORB. Central to this is the Galveston Electric Co. case. The company won the case in 1992 to pass on utility taxes to consumers.

But the Philippine Supreme Court's Third Division has spoken that income tax must be shouldered by anyone who benefited from the income, and that US jurisprudence on this issue does not apply to the local setting.

Income tax as well as costs on items not directly related to the business of electricity distribution must not be made part of operating expenses, a component of the RORB computation.

Roughly, RORB is computed as net income over assets. Net income is computed as revenue minus operating expenses.

When Meralco included in its P38-billion operating expenses in 1994 the P2 billion in income tax payments, it shrank the net income and consequently helped keep its RORB within the 12-percent ceiling.

To further deflate its RORB, Meralco tried to increase its asset base by including items not related to its business like the Meralco Theater, a recreation center, a hospital, a shooting range, and a building for information technology.

The spirit of the 1998 ERB decision was based on a COA report that I found on my desk when I took my oath as ERB chair in 1997, three years after Meralco received its provisional authority from the ERB to implement a rate hike.

Every provisional authority carries with it a caveat that if the rate adjustment was found to be unnecessary later by the ERB, the utility firm should comply with the regulator's orders and carry out whatever rebate or rollback is deemed necessary.

It is an ERB procedure to submit to COA the financial details of a company seeking a permanent authority to increase rates. Thus, when I assumed office there was the COA finding that Meralco's RORB had risen to 21.04 percent after the 18.4-centavo per kWh rate hike.

Of Meralco's 21.04-percent RORB, 7 percentage points were attributed to the income tax payment included in the operating expenses.

Even without the income tax item, Meralco's RORB stood at 13.95 percent, or still above the 12-percent ceiling, according to COA. The two-percentage point excess was due to the inclusion in the rate base of assets unrelated to electricity distribution.

COA noted that aside from being income-generating (like the Meralco Theater), the assets that the utility firm included in the rate base were shared by other Lopez-owned companies.

Once-and-for-all, the Supreme Court decision settled the long debates in the electricity industry on how to compute the RORB.

A Supreme Court final order can be overturned only if Congress passes a law allowing regulated utilities to include income tax payments in operating expenses when computing the RORB.

(Franco retired from government service after leading the ERB in the landmark decision against Meralco in 1998. He has since taken charge of an orchard in Masbate that he planted with trees like mango. He says he is now a contented farmer.) ***Interview by Clarissa S. Batino***

'Re-examine the regulatory policy on the energy sector'

By the Action for Economic Reforms

THERE is not much we can add to the lucid arguments marshaled by the Supreme Court's Third Division in affirming the Energy Regulatory Boards' decision. The key questions are whether Meralco's income tax should be treated as part of operating expenses and hence be considered in determining rates, and whether to adopt the net average investment method used by the Commission on Audit (COA) and the ERB instead of the average investment method used by Meralco in computing the rate base.

The answers are straightforward. Operating expenses refer to the costs of inputs that vary directly with the level of output. The standard examples are the costs of labor and raw materials. Income tax is a different animal altogether. To quote the SC ruling: "Income tax paid by a public utility is inconsistent with the nature of operating expenses. In general, operating expenses are those which are reasonably incurred in connection with business operations to yield revenue or income."

With respect to the second question, the SC makes it clear that the net average investment method (NAIM) is more precise than the trending method. The NAIM is also more transparent and less Notwithstanding the clear and unanimous ruling of the SC's Third Division, we have a rejoinder to some straight-to-the-point criticisms raised by Meralco. Is the SC ruling an arbitrary rule change? Why should the rule be applied retroactively?

The answer, again, is simple. Meralco's petition for the revision of its rate schedule in 1993 included a prayer for a provisional increase. The provisional relief was granted, but under the condition that, should the Board find, after hearing and submission by COA of an audit report that Meralco "is entitled to a lesser increase in rates, all excess amounts collected from the applicant's customers as a result of this Order shall either be refunded to them or correspondingly credited in their favor for application to electric bills covering future consumption." Clearly, there was no reversal of rate-regulation.

We likewise confront head-on the issue of rule change. The rationale for regulation in the case of a utility like Meralco is that it holds a monopoly of the service in its franchise area and that it faces relatively inelastic demand. Unregulated, this leads to monopoly and discriminatory pricing. As said earlier, regulation is both promoting and restraining. Existing rules then can be defended or changed in the exercise of the dual function of promotion and restraint, that is, the rule change must be reasonable and not arbitrary.

The fact remains that Meralco is protected by way of guaranteed earnings equivalent to 12-percent return on rate base (RORB). The SC states that it has "consistently adopted a 12-percent rate of return for public utilities." This is a fair rate of return for a firm that is insulated from competition. It is a guiding principle that a public utility should exercise more reasonableness than corporations facing competitive pressure. In the same vein, the specific ERB regulation upheld by the SC substitutes for the absence of competition.

In line with the aforementioned principle, we further assert that the net return for Meralco remains reasonable. Why should Meralco be exempted from paying income tax (for that is the effect of passing on the tax burden to consumers) while corporations facing competition are subject to corporate income tax?

If on the other hand Meralco believes that the 12-percent cap on RORB is unreasonable, then the proper course is for it to be transparent in pursuing the legal and judicial process toward changing the RORB rate or the mechanism itself.

Instead, Meralco opted to be non-transparent. To circumvent the regulation, it treated income tax as an operating expense, and included properties such as the Meralco Theater in the computation of the rate base. The SC ruling likewise opens a window of opportunity for the government and the public to critically re-examine the regulatory policy in relation to the whole energy sector as well as other public utilities. Other public utilities have reportedly been resorting to creative ways to skirt the 12-percent cap on RORB. Government must immediately stop this.

In the power sector, too, we must address the weaknesses of the Electric Power Industry Reform Act (EPIRA). The competition policy in the EPIRA is infirmed. This is because Congress refused calls from public interest advocates to disallow cross-ownership of distribution and generation assets, or alternatively, to require a competitive pricing benchmark for bilateral contracts between distributors and independent power producers for the captive market.

Last but not the least, it is necessary to have consumer representation in the Energy Regulatory Commission (ERC). Having a consumer voice in the ERC does not negate the independence of the regulatory agency. The returns to an individual consumer from participating in regulatory processes (such as hearings) are very small compared to the returns to electricity suppliers and other industry players. Representation offsets the disadvantages faced by consumers.

(Statement of Carlito Añonuevo, Jenina Joy Chavez, Alvin Firmeza, Nepomuceno Malaluan, Cristina A. Morales, Rene Ofreneo, Ma. Victoria Peñaflor, Rene Raya, Jessica Reyes-Cantos, Filomeno Sta. Ana III.)

'Give small consumers seats on the board'

By Raul E. Segovia
Chair, Citizens' Alliance for Consumer Protection (CACP)

THE SUPREME Court decision is historic in two ways. First, it's a wake-up call for corporate cheaters, especially firms with franchises for public services. Second, the decision is oriented to the interest of low-income consumers.

Since low-income electricity consumers constitute CACP, the temptation is high to opt for immediate cash payment.

They could also have free or low-priced electricity for a number of years instead of getting cash refund corresponding to how much the company owes them. Under this scheme, no cash is taken out of anybody's hand. No risk of bankruptcy is in the offing as everyone is made to believe. Meralco continues to earn for its operation, maintenance, and improvement from those paying the services correctly.

But CACP opts for immediate payment by shares to all low-income Meralco consumers, possibly those paying P500 a month or less, with the proviso that they will have majority representation in the decision-making body of the firm.

After the Supreme Court decision we cannot allow the same decision-making Meralco structure to prevail in which the power to decide lies in the monopolistic hands of those who hold the moneybag. Otherwise there's no guarantee that the same "mistake" will not be repeated.

'Pay big users with preferred bonds'

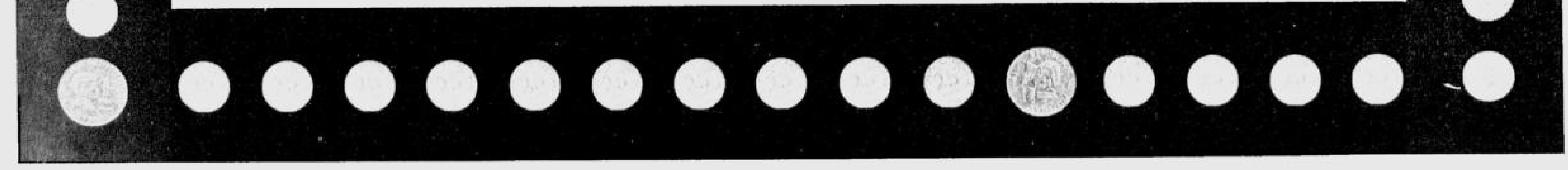
By Raul Concepcion
Chair, Consumer & Oil Price Watch

I WOULD like to propose to the Energy Regulatory Commission, which will formulate the mechanism for implementing the Supreme Court decision once it becomes final, that Meralco pay the full amount of the refund to residential users who consume 300 kWh and below.

These households represent only 18 percent of Meralco's energy sales but constitute 77 percent of the company's 3.9 million customers.

The remaining 23 percent of Meralco customers are commercial, industrial and residential users who consume more than 300 kWh a month. They comprise 82 percent of Meralco's energy sales. Since they are the major beneficiaries, they can be refunded through Meralco preferred bonds payable in eight equal annual installments.

To ensure compliance, the ERC should require Meralco to implement a definitive refund program before it can act on Meralco's petition for unbundling or rate increase under the Electric Power Industry Reform Act.



Graphic Illustration by Steph Bravo/Erne Sambo and Page Design by Erne Sambo

The WORLD

Editor **Luverne B. Gueco**

9/11 panel probing Saudi gov't links

WASHINGTON—A congressional inquiry into intelligence failures related to the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks on the United States is investigating a possible money trail from the Saudi Arabian government to two of the hijackers, US sources said.

They said the joint inquiry of the Senate and House intelligence committees received information in recent months about the possibility that money was funneled from the Saudi government through Omar Al-Bayoumi, a Saudi who lived in San Diego, to hijackers Khalid al-Mihdhar and Nawaf al-Hazmi.

Some government sources cautioned there was no definitive proof of Saudi government involvement, but that congressional investigators were looking at information that suggested it.

It was not immediately clear when the investigators suspect that Saudi funds passed through Al-Bayoumi to the two hijackers, who were aboard the plane that crashed into the Pentagon.

US and British media have reported that US federal investigators believe that Al-Bayoumi helped pay the rent for the two men on their San Diego apartment.

An FBI confidential informant was the landlord who rented rooms to the two hijackers when they lived in the Californian city about a year before the Sept. 11 attacks.

Information suggesting a possible Saudi government link prompted a week's postponement of the inquiry's final open hearing on Oct. 9, at which the FBI and CIA directors were to testify, to allow lawmakers to explore the suspicions in detail behind closed doors, the sources said.

"An (FBI) agent was following the money and tracked the money from the Saudis to the hijackers," one source said.

"Al-Bayoumi departed the United States prior to 9/11 but was subsequently charged with one count of visa fraud. Although he was temporarily detained in the UK on that charge, visa fraud is not an extraditable offense and al-Bayoumi was released," the FBI said on Friday.

"Since the terrorist attacks of 9/11, the FBI has aggressively pursued investigative leads regarding terrorist support and activity," the FBI said in a statement, responding to questions about a possible Saudi government link.

FBI agents found the phone number of the Saudi Embassy in Bayoumi's apartment, the Washington Post reported. Saudi officials told the Post that there was no link between Bayoumi and any Saudi government employee.

US government officials told the Post that Bayoumi is believed to be in Saudi Arabia.

Saudi-US relations were strained after the Sept. 11 hijacked plane attacks after it was discovered that 15 of the 19 hijackers were Saudis. About 3,000 people died in the attacks.

A lawsuit filed by the families of 900 of the victims accuses Saudi nationals, including three senior princes, of funding al-Qaida leader Osama bin Laden, believed by the US government of being behind the attacks.

The FBI and CIA have come under fire for missing clues that may have led to uncovering the Sept. 11 plot if they had been more thoroughly pursued.

The FBI has changed its priority to fighting terrorism from catching criminals.

"We are a different FBI than we were a year ago; we continue to move toward where we need to be, and I am confident that we will get there," FBI Director Robert Mueller said in a letter published in The New York Times on Friday.

He was disputing media reports that FBI officials were frustrated with the agency's performance in the war on terrorism.

The joint congressional inquiry is expected to complete its report by the end of the year and issue an unclassified version next year. *Reuters*

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Suspect says 1 of 2 Bali bombings a suicide attack

JAKARTA—One of two blasts in the Bali nightclub bombings came from a suicide bomber's backpack, a sign Islamic militants in Indonesia are taking their cues from abroad, police said.

Police said Friday a key suspect made the revelation in a confession they hope will reveal more about the inner workings of Jemaah Islamiah, the group linked to al-Qaida that is believed to be behind the blasts.

If what Imam Samudra says is true, it would be the first time a suicide bombing has been used as a tactic in Indonesia, the world's most populous Muslim country.

Nearly 200 people, mostly foreign tourists, were killed in two near-simultaneous explosions Oct. 12 in Bali's nightclub district.

Lt. Gen. Erwin Mapaseng, a police detective, said the smaller of the two explosions was a bomb a man suspected in the attack was carrying in his backpack. He was identified only as Iqbal.

Citing Samudra's confession, Mapaseng said Iqbal set off the blast that killed eight people outside one club. A few seconds later, a much bigger bomb went off in a vehicle parked in front of another club.

Hundreds of people fleeing the initial blast were killed when the second bomb exploded.

Officials said they would search for Iqbal's corpse in the morgue in Bali, which still holds about 40 unclaimed bodies.

Samudra, 32, was arrested Thursday as he tried to flee the island of Java, where his family lives.

Police say he was the ringleader of those who carried out the attack. In particular, Samudra admitted to deciding "when and where" to place the bombs, said the country's police chief, Gen. Da'i Bachtiar.

Samudra also confessed, police say, to playing a central role in several other bombings in Indonesia in recent years. *AP*

Firefighters in Britain go back on strike

LONDON—Firefighters across Britain went back on strike Friday, this time for eight days, leaving ill-equipped soldiers to respond to emergency calls as union leaders and the government blamed each other for failing to reach an 11th-hour deal on pay.

Fire Brigades Union (FBU) leader Andy Gilchrist blamed last-minute intervention by the government for "wrecking" an agreement and triggering the walkout that began at 9 a.m.

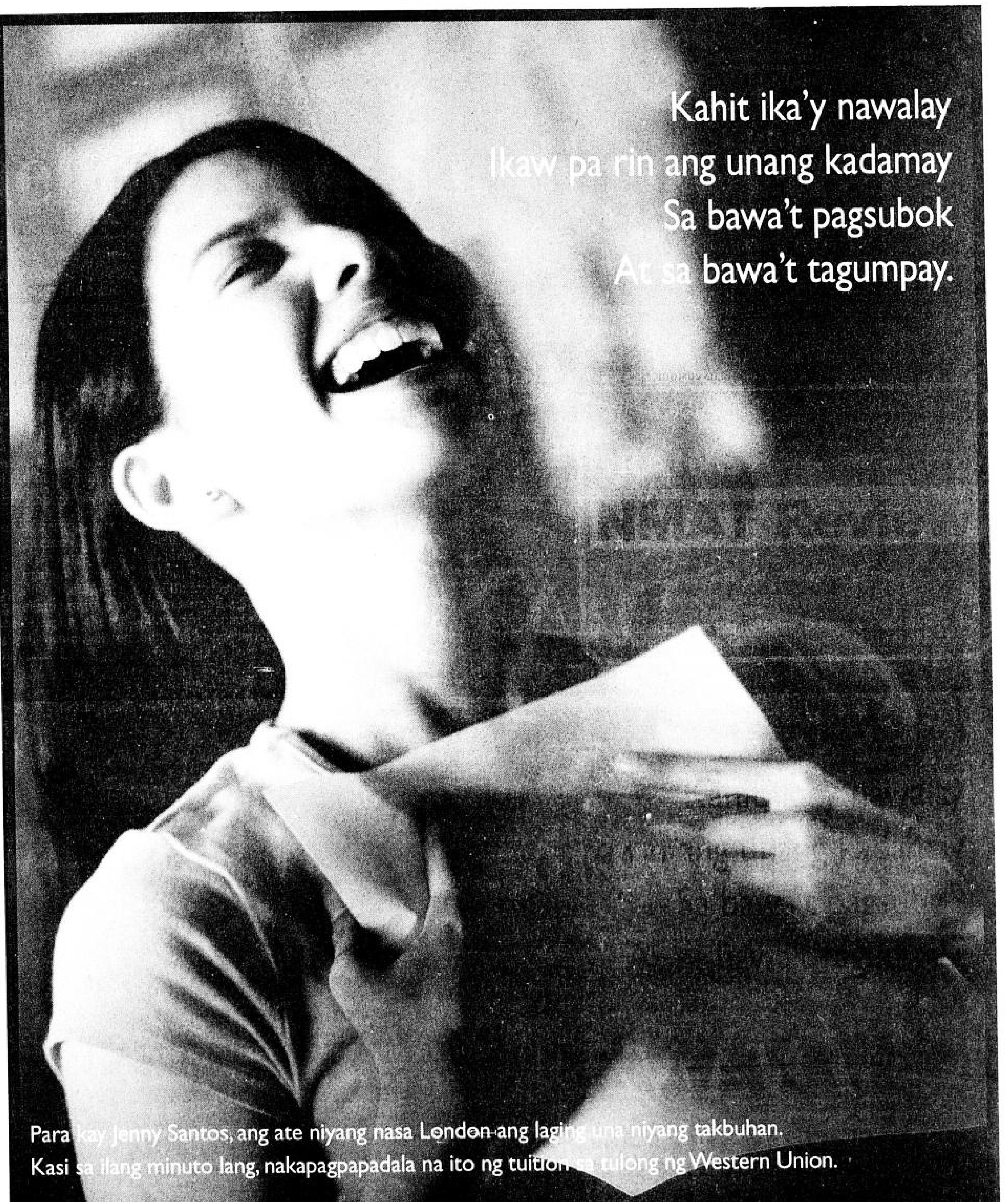
The 52,000 firefighters—gunning for a hefty pay rise—staged a 48-hour strike last week, their first in 25 years, leaving the British armed forces to provide emergency cover using antiquated fire equipment dating back to the Cold War.

Friday's action saw underground metro services in central London curtailed or delayed on the Bakerloo and Victoria lines, and 24 stations closed.

In talks overnight Thursday, local authorities—the firefighters' employers—proposed a 16 percent increase in pay over 12 months.

That would have brought the benchmark firefighters' yearly pay to 25,000 pounds ($37,500)—short of their original demand for 30,000 pounds a year.

Gilchrist said that his union had agreed to suspend the strike, but that when details of the pay offer were passed to the government, which ultimately foots the bill for public services, it "intervened to block" it. *AFP*



Para kay Jenny Santos, ang ate niyang nasa London ang laging una niyang takbuhan.
Kasi sa ilang minuto lang, nakapagpapadala na ito ng tuition sa tulong ng Western Union.

Parang si Ate mismo ang nag-abot kaya panatag ang loob nilang dalawa. At ngayong nagtapos na si Jenny, si Ate rin ang unang makakatanggap ng magandang balita!

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Canada my country

DIPLOMATIC POUCH

Robert Collette
Canadian Ambassador
to Manila

When I think of Canada, I am always very proud of who we are, what we have become and what we stand for. Canada has become the home for people from nearly all the other countries in the world. Canada is a bit like the United Nations or multilateral organizations. We have a multicultural family and each member is free to reach out for the top. We are a multicultural society and that gives it vitality and uniqueness. We feel this brings us closer to everyone in the world. We are a nation of immigrants and for the last few years, the majority of new Canadians from abroad come from Asia. Recent studies show that Asians account for 57 percent of all immigrants and that Europeans for only 19 percent, a dramatic shift from just a few years ago. Canada is increasingly "Asianized" and we embrace these newcomers as they energize Canada and propel the country to greater heights with their entrepreneurial gifts. As one of Canada's leading authors, Pierre Burton, said, Canada "has always been a land of immigrants—a polyglot country in which we have had to learn to get along with the strangers who arrive on our shores."

Canada is internationally recognized as one of the most tolerant, open and democratic countries in the world—a dynamic mosaic of multiculturalism where people live and work together in harmony. But what is multiculturalism? In 1971, Canada became the first country in the world to adopt a multiculturalism policy. Our Multiculturalism Policy affirms that Canada recognizes and values its rich ethnic and racial diversity.

Canada, through its people, has an understanding of many cultures, thereby, resulting in very strong ties with other countries. You need only know that there are 400,000 Canadians of Filipino origin to appreciate why Canada and the Philippines have such strong people to people links!

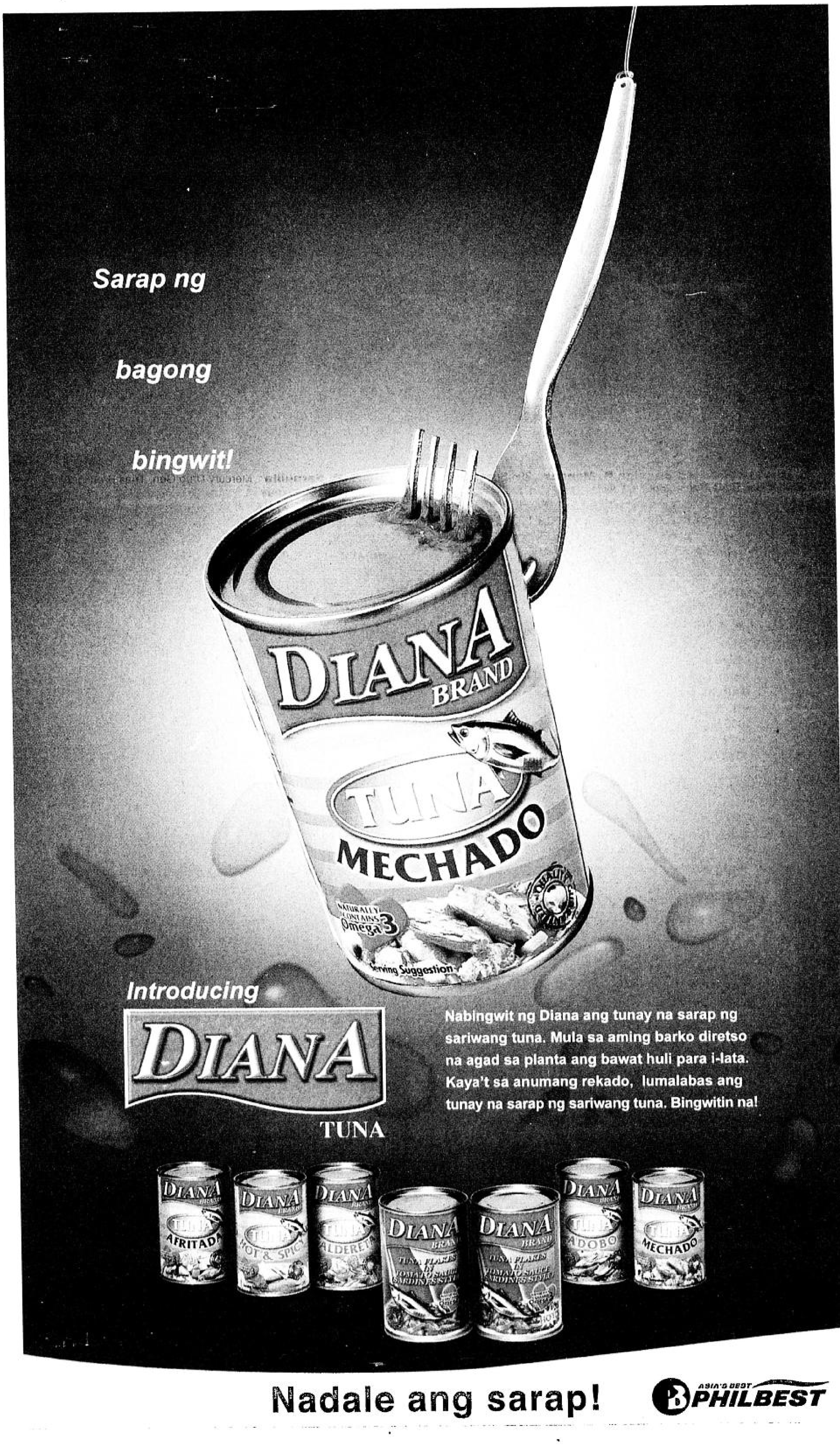
We are only 31 million Canadians but Canada is the second largest country in the world, after Russia. Our overall population density is only 3 people per sq km. However, more than 85 percent of Canadians live within a 300-km strip along the Canada-United States Border and that populated strip has a density of about 25 people per sq km.

Just as there is diversity in our people, there is diversity in our climate with the extremes in cold and warmth. Diversity is also part of our geography; from the almost permanently beautiful snow-covered Territories to the majestic mountains of Western Canada (the provinces of British Columbia and Alberta), to our rich great plains of the Prairies (the provinces of Saskatchewan and Manitoba) and our forests and millions of lakes of the Center (the provinces of Ontario and Quebec) to the Maritimes of the East (the provinces of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland). Our smallest province, Prince Edward Island, is home to one of the world's most famous books: Anne of Green Gables. Prince Edward Island also received international attention when CNN announced that the Island had been named as one of the 10 best locations for Americans to travel for holidays!

What about our government . . . how is Canada governed in order to meet the challenges of governing a great land of diversity? Well, there is diversity in our government as well. Canada is a constitutional monarchy, a federal state and a parliamentary democracy with two official languages (English and French) and two systems of law: civil law (in the province of Quebec) and common law (elsewhere in Canada). In 1982, the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms was entrenched in the Canadian Constitution. As a constitutional monarchy: the Queen reigns but does not govern. The Prime Minister is the head of the political structure and is normally a member of the House of Commons from the majority party. For Canada, a federal state is one that provides for a number of different political communities under a common government for common purposes, with separate regional governments for the particular needs of each region. The 10 provinces and the three territories are part of the Canadian federation. Canada's parliamentary system is similar in principle to that of the United Kingdom with a Senate and a House of Commons. It has been said that the differences and disagreements between the governments of Canada—federal, provincial, territorial and local—are as quintessential as our famous maple syrup and as inevitable as our winters. However, these discussions lead to healthy debate on issues which are most often resolved through compromises.

In terms of Canada's approach to the world, I cannot deny the importance of our relations with the US but paramount is also our multilateral engagement with the world. Canada promotes commonly shared values

CANADA/ A13



Nabingwit ng Diana ang tunay na sarap ng sariwang tuna. Mula sa aming barko diretso na agad sa planta ang bawat huli para i-lata. Kaya't sa anumang rekado, lumalabas ang tunay na sarap ng sariwang tuna. Bingwitin na!

Spain sends sub to site of sunk tanker

SPAIN—Spain said on Friday a submarine was on its way to the site of the sunken tanker Prestige to see if the ship was still spewing oil into Atlantic waters already polluted by thousands of tons of fuel oil.

Deputy Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy announced the measure while outlining a recovery plan for a disaster which has blackened the scenic coastline of the Galicia region, coating birds with tar and putting thousands of fishermen out of work.

Meanwhile the European Union's transport commissioner said, after surveying the damage, she would ask EU ministers as early as next month to slap a ban on single-hulled tankers like the Prestige.

Spain says 10,000 to 11,000 tons of the viscous fuel toxin spewed out before the storm-damaged Prestige broke in half and sank on Tuesday some 130 nautical miles off the coast where the ocean is some 3.6 km deep.

Environmental group Greenpeace estimates 20,000 tons leaked from the tanker, which was carrying 77,000 tons of fuel oil—twice the amount that spilled when the Exxon Valdez ran aground in Alaska in 1989 to create what has been stamped in the world's mind as the worst ever oil spill.

A wave of oil slicks continued to menace Spain and Portugal and France said on Friday that maritime pollution units had been put on alert and volunteers mobilized amid fears that strong winds would blow oil to its coast.

At Doninos, a picturesque beach 40 km from La Coruna and the northernmost point the slick has reached so far, thick lumps of tar washed up on the beach overnight.

"This is a disaster for people who make a living from fish and shellfish," said Antonio Fereiroa, a worker at a beachside cafe.

Spain has deployed more than 500 workers to scrape oil off nearly 400 km of coastline where fishing has been banned.

"They've sent a handful of men to clean up a bit," Fereiroa said. "Resources are short everywhere and in some places there's nowhere to throw away the oil people are picking up." Rajoy said experts told the government the oil inside the ship would solidify in the frigid ocean depths but that the French submarine—a small scientific research craft—would take a closer look just in case.

Other experts say oil tanks inside the shattered hull could have ruptured on impact or could eventually rust through and release their contents into the ocean. *Reuters*

Kuwait cop who shot 2 US soldiers held

KUWAIT—Saudi Arabian authorities have arrested a Kuwaiti policeman accused of shooting and seriously wounding two US soldiers in Kuwait, the official Saudi Press Agency said on Friday.

It quoted an interior ministry official as saying arrangements had been made to extradite the suspect, who fled across the border to Saudi Arabia after the soldiers were shot on a highway south of Kuwait City on Thursday.

The two soldiers were named on Friday as Master Sergeant Larry Thomas and Sergeant Charles Ellis. They were among some 10,000 US troops training in Kuwait at a time of heightened tension over a possible US attack on Iraq.

The two men were wearing civilian clothes and travelling in a civilian vehicle when they were shot, one in the face and the other in the shoulder.

They were airlifted to a military hospital in Kuwait, where their condition was described as serious but not life-threatening.

A Kuwaiti security official said the policeman was expected to be handed over by Saudi Arabia within a few days.

The shooting was the latest in a series of incidents involving US troops taking part in training exercises in Kuwait.

Last month two Kuwaitis attacked US Marines training on a Kuwaiti island, killing one and wounding another. Marines shot dead the two attackers, and Kuwait later said it had rounded up a 15-man cell which had plotted the attack and which was indirectly linked to Osama bin Laden's al-Qaida network. *Reuters*

UN official killed in West Bank crossfire

JERUSALEM—A British aid worker was killed Friday in a West Bank UN compound during a gunbattle between Israeli troops and Palestinian gunmen—the first UN official to die in over two years of fighting.

The United Nations accused Israeli soldiers of having prevented an ambulance from immediately reaching Iain Hook, 50, a senior manager for the UN agency that helps Palestinian refugees, UNRWA. The Israeli army said he was evacuated from the Jenin UN compound as soon as possible.

The death occurred hours after Israel reoccupied the West Bank town of Bethlehem for the first time since August, following a Jerusalem bus bombing that killed 11 people, four of them children.

With the incursion, Israel has retaken control of all Palestinian population centers in the West Bank except for the quiet oasis of Jericho—mirroring the massive deployment that capped military offensives in April and June.

Confirming Israeli control in those areas, Israeli Defense Minister Shaul Mofaz said agreements reached in August to give Palestinian forces responsibility for security in Bethlehem were "canceled and don't exist." *AP*

Canada . . .

From page A12

such as equality and democracy through its participation in many international organizations, including the United Nations, the Commonwealth, La Francophonie, and the Organization of American States. As our Foreign Minister has said recently: "Canada has been and will be a key player in these institutions, often because we can serve as an intermediary in resolving differences between peoples."

In this regard, peacekeeping is an important aspect of Canada's national heritage and a reflection of our fundamental beliefs. Fifty years of experience in peacekeeping and participation in an overwhelming majority of peacekeeping missions mandated by the United Nations Security Council has established an international reputation for Canada. Peacekeeping is a dynamic concept that responds to changes in the international environment in order to continue to develop security for people affected by war. Canada builds on our established peacekeeping tradition to make strong and imaginative contributions to international peace and security.

In the area of the arts, many Canadians have excelled and have become world renowned. To name a few . . . Alanis Morissette, Celine Dion, Shania Twain and Diana Krall. We have also had a number of successful films, including the Red Violin and, most recently, Atarnajuat. The latter won the Golden Camera Prize at the Cannes Film Festival and it also won the Grand Prize Lino Brocka Award during this year's CineManila International Film Festival . Atarnajuat is an excellent example of Canadian creativity in that it is the first feature film ever made entirely in the Inuit language and it was produced and directed by an aboriginal Canadian film maker Zacharias Kunuk. In addition, there are many Canadian-Filipino artists, including Joanna Go, Ariel Rivera, Eleonor Cables, Romeo Candido, Charito, Shanon Gamalong and Michelle Bayle.

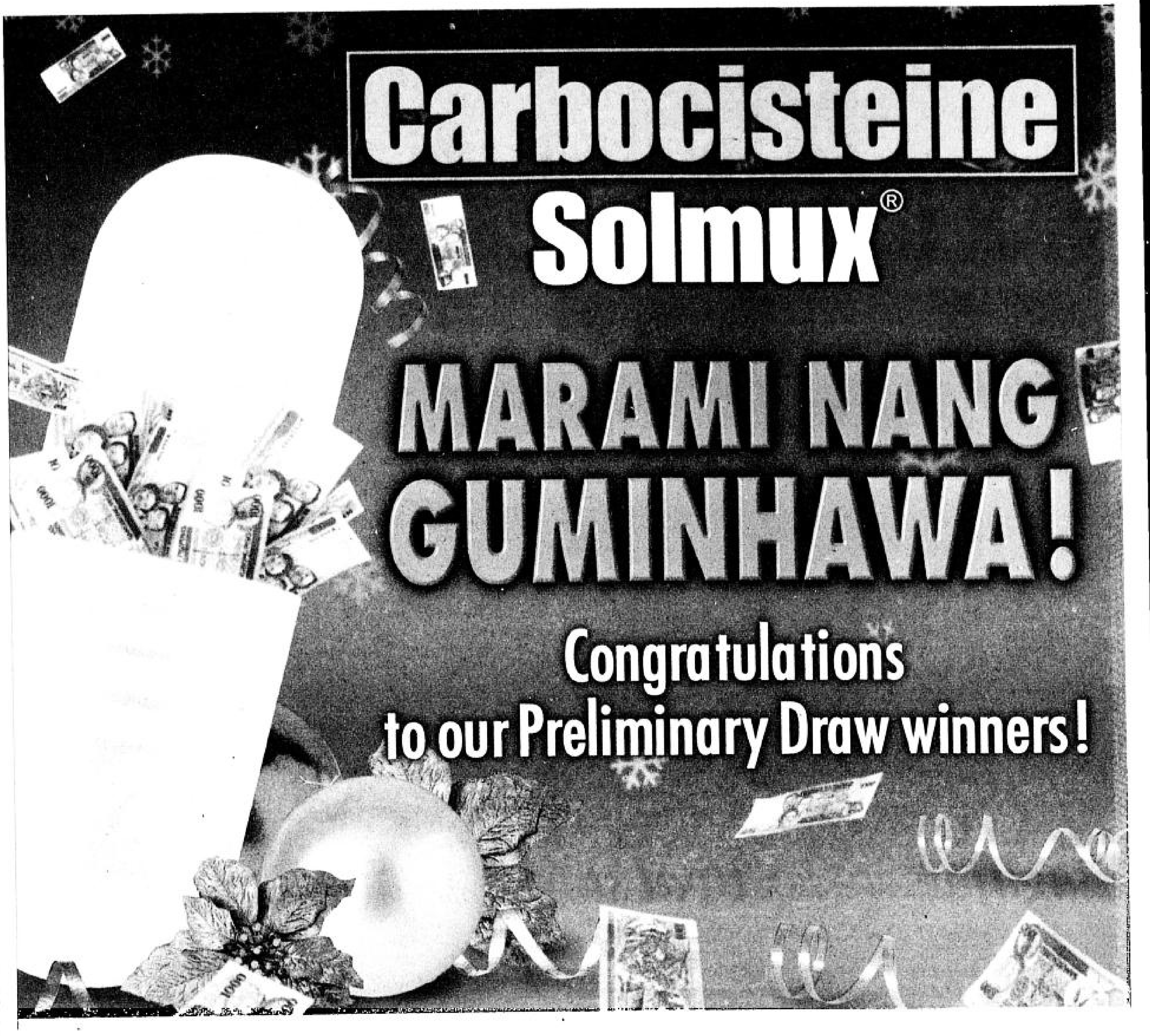
Active Canadians

Are Canadians active people? YES WE ARE, in fact we love sports: we ski, skate, cycle, swim, canoe, row, play tennis, basketball, baseball and football and lacrosse (a game like hockey but played with a ball driven by and caught and carried in a net at the end of a stick). But hockey is Canada's passion! If you had observed Canadians watch the final game between Canada and the USA for the Olympic Gold Medal last year, you would have understood the meaning of the game to us. It is a visceral passion for us, Hockey is Canada! Can you imagine that some two million Canadians play hockey in more than 3,000 covered arenas in the country? It is played regularly by 60 percent of adults! I understand that there are Canadians living in Manila that have found a way to play hockey here at the Mega Mall!!

Did I like hockey? I started to skate almost before I could walk. I used to put on my skates and walk all the way down to the nearest frozen lake or pond or hockey rink, sometimes two to three km away to join my friends and play THE game. It did not matter to me that it was 30 degrees below zero or that it was snowing . . . we would even lose the puck in the snow-covered ice but we were playing hockey and the rest did not matter. However, when I realized that I could not become a professional hockey player, my dreams were shattered. So instead, I focused on tennis and it ended up being the sport at which I succeeded the most, playing competitively for several years. But while I still love the game of tennis and I am not very good at basketball, I have moved on to play golf in the Philippines, the country of Golf. Despite the frustrations of learning a new game, I have made good progress. And golf has provided me with an "innovative" way to meet new people, visit the country and get exercise.

Finally, I wish to tell readers that my first two years as Canada's Ambassador to the Philippines have been enchanting, challenging, fun and most rewarding. From the moment Marilyn and I stepped off the plane at the Manila Airport on Aug. 13, 2000, we felt at home and that feeling has never changed. My family as well as my colleagues and their respective families at the Embassy, have been extremely well-received by Filipinos from all walks of life. I have had the chance to travel extensively throughout the Philippines and have been able to appreciate the beauty of this country while gaining a better perspective of each region and their unique features.

Marilyn and I have developed some great friendships, all the while having the joy of representing and talking about Canada and things Canadian.



Five(5) winners of P50,000

GMA:
Virginia F. dela Rosa, Blk. 23 Lot 12 Tatlong Hari St. Lagro Subd., Greater Lagro, Quezon City
North & Central Luzon:
Heherson R. Alarde, 049 Yakal St., Aguas Subd., Manibaug Paralaya Porac, 2008 Pampanga
South Luzon & Bicol:
Julleta Pacual c/o Zenalda B. Mendez , 396 Street, Gregory Extension Buna Cerca, Indang, Cavite
Visayas:
Violeta A. Apordo, Brgy. Atipolo, Jaro, Leyte
Mindanao:
Rudy B. Magracia, 0035 Sheker Avenue, San Miguel, Iligan City

Ten winners(10) of P20,000

GMA:
Rodrigo E. Esclamad, Blk. 8 Lot 31 Dhalia St. Almar Subd., Camarin, Caloocan City
Jesusa Rayos, 147 Maysan Road, Valenzuela
North & Central Luzon:
Rita R. Galiza, 6th Street, Fairlane Subd., Tarlac City
Theresa D. Ramos, Golden Grain Villas, Mojon Malolos, 3000 Bulacan
South Luzon & Bicol:
Rodel P. de los Santos, 81 Gomez St., Infanta, Quezon 4336

Hermoso A. Oronan, Karangahan Blvd., Tabaco City
Visayas:
Rebecca R. Valles, E. Reyes Avenue, Zone I, Estancia, Iloilo
Delia P. Buctuan, 120 Mabini St., Looc Mandaue City, Cebu City
Mindanao:
Anna V. Matsa c/o Maritess Hulaton, Crossing Malatibas, Panabo, Davao del Norte
Lucila T. Amihan, Katipunan, Zamboanga del Norte

Fifteen (15) winners of P10,000 (Sales Clerk partner)

GMA:
Laren Feliciano, Manson Drug

North & Central Luzon:
Lina R. Alarde , Mercury Drug Rizal, Angeles City

South Luzon & Bicol
Claire M. Sarquilla , Mercury Drug Gen. Trias Branch, Gen. Drive, Manggahan, Gen. Trias
Visayas:
Vanessa Naida , Fortune Drugstore, Tacloban City
Mindanao:
Jonally Amorante, Mercury Drugstore, Quezon, Iligan City

GMA:
Gina Nuñez, Farmacia Sta. Quiteria, Almar Branch

Irene Bayron, South Pharmacy, Karuhatan, Valenzuela
North & Central Luzon:
Amy A. Quirido, Consolidated Drugstore Branch 2
Jeff M. Sulit, Mercury Drugstore Malolos Highway, Bulacan

South Luzon & Bicol:
Donabele Sy, Farmacia Sunio Ang, Gen. Merchandise, J. Rizal St, Pagsanjan, Laguna
Flor Bronzal, New South Star Drug, Tabaco 3
Visayas:
Dulcing Himugada, Botica San Jose
Cynthia Badayos, Super Metro Pharmacy, Mandaue City, Cebu
Mindanao:
May Gabayno, Save More Drug

Luman Cristy Escala, Lourdes Pharmacy, Dipolog City

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6. All non-winning entries from the Preliminary Draw will automatically qualify for the Grand Draw.
7. Prizes in the Grand Draw are as follows: Ten (10) winners of twenty thousand pesos (P20,000) each (2 winners per area) • Five (5) winners of one hundred thousand pesos (P100,000) each (1 winner per area) • One (1) Grand Prize winner of one million pesos (P1,000,000.00)
8. For the Grand Prize, pingpong balls representing each area will be placed inside an air tube container. The pingpong ball that will be chosen from the container shall be the area where the Grand Prize will be drawn.
9. All draws shall be conducted in the presence of representatives from BFAD, Client and/or Basic.
10. A winner can only win once in the raffle draws. In case a winner's name is drawn more than once, the prize with the greater value will be awarded and another entry will be picked for the smaller prize.
11. Winners will be notified via registered mail as to how and when to claim prizes. Winners will be given sixty (60) days from the date of notification to claim their prizes. Prizes not claimed after the 60-day period shall be forfeited in favor of Unilab Probus with prior approval from BFAD.
12. Winners must present the notification letter,TIN card and any valid ID with photo when claiming their prize.
13. Winners shall shoulder the 20% prize tax for prizes worth more than P10,000.
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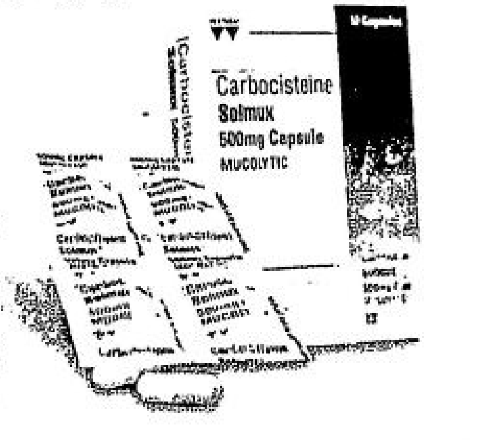

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Assistant Editor Tony Bergonia

VISAYAS BUREAU
c/o Cebu Daily News
18-15 Escario St., Cebu City
Tel. Nos. (032) 233-0346/233-0349
Fax No. (032) 232-9938
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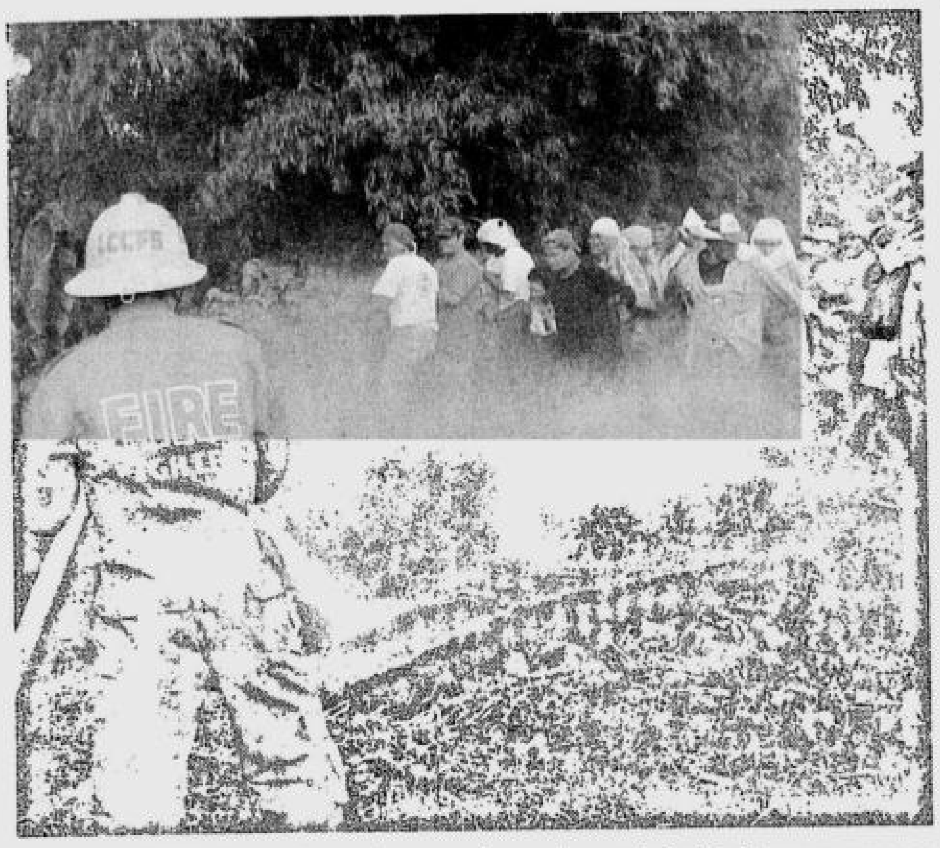
DAR fails to install CARP beneficiaries

By Carla P. Gomez, *PDI Visayas Bureau*



PRO-BENEDICTO farmers brave the spray of water from a La Carlota fireman. JESSAR DURA

LA CARLOTA CITY, Negros Occidental—Agrarian Reform Secretary Hernani Braganza failed to convince some 100 farmers loyal to the heirs of the late Marcos supporter Roberto S. Benedicto to remove the barricade they set up at the road leading to the entrance of Hacienda Esperanza in this southern town.

Braganza left the hacienda at about 4:30 p.m. yesterday after the two-hour negotiation with the protesters bogged down.

He, however, vowed to return to the farm this morning to attempt to install the 183 farmers identified by the Department of Agrarian Reform as beneficiaries to the 564-ha Hacienda Esperanza owned by the Benedictos' Malibu Agro Corp.

"We are here to enforce the law but (we will) exhaust all peaceful means," said Braganza.

From the hacienda, Braganza proceeded to the City Hall to meet with La Carlota Mayor Luis Jalandoni III at the city hall to discuss means to install the beneficiaries.

Braganza arrived in Negros Occidental yesterday morning to install the farmers who had been given Certificates of Land Ownership Award (Cloa) for the property.

At 10 a.m., he met with Juliet de Leon, daughter of Kitchie Benedicto Paulino, and their lawyer Edgar Uytiepo, for a preliminary meeting at the Casino Filipino Hotel in Bacolod City, about 46 km from here.

At about 2 p.m., the Secretary and some local DAR officials proceeded to the hacienda.

The group, however, was greeted by about 100 pro-management farmers who had blocked the road leading to the hacienda with three tractors and galvanized sheets.

After a few minutes of standoff, the protesters allowed Braganza and his staff to get inside the farm for a dialogue.

The pro-management group was demanding the exclusion of 50 farmers whom they claimed were not original tillers of the land. They said the DAR should instead include the 57 original workers.

The 50 were among the 77 farmers who belong to the Nagasi Agrarian Reform Beneficiaries Multi-Purpose Cooperative.

The protesters also lamented that 50 Nagasi farmers were awarded prime land located at the entrance of the farm while the original workers were given land located four kilometers from the entrance which is marginal sugarcane fields or not as productive as the land at the entrance.

The two parties could not reach an agreement by 4:30 p.m., forcing Braganza to meet with Jalandoni.

Although Braganza had intended to install the farmer-beneficiaries yesterday, he decided to talk first to the protesters to prevent bloodshed following a violent dispersal on Friday.

A soldier, two policemen and a farmer were injured when the DAR attempted to break the barricade with the use of a La Carlota City fire truck.

But the pro-management farmers fought back and started throwing stones. Maj. William Abao, head of the 11th Infantry Battalion, was hit in his left arm.

Also injured were SPO1 Francisco Gimay and PO2 Salde Navarro of the La Carlota police. Gimay was hit in the right side of his face while Navarro suffered cuts on his arm from broken glass of the destroyed windshield of the La Carlota fire truck. A stone hit the head of management worker Joel Samson.

Baguio Arts Festival starts "healing of country"

BAGUIO CITY—More than 100 *gangza* (indigenous gongs) beat out a rhythmic chant on Friday here to "heal the country" as it opened the 6th Baguio Arts Festival.

Most of the chants were environmental elegies, according to Ferdinand Balanag, who conceptualized the ensemble of 108 gongs with artist Antonio Romawac.

Balanag said the performance was part of a workshop that plans to teach indigenous Filipino children about their heritage.

Balanag, president of the Workshop for Infinite Media Inc., said elementary students in Barangays Pinsao, Gibraltar, San Vicente, and Pacdal, as well as the Baguio Central Elementary School and Mabini Elementary School in downtown Baguio, need to understand their culture's impact on Filipino society and its ecology.

Boys from four Baguio public schools joined 75 chanters in a giant circle at Burnham Park, as they performed Cordillera hymns that depicted the situation of the country.

The activity was dubbed "Kaya Sana Bathala," and it used "Pidutem ti rugit mo (Pick up your trash)" as the children's battle cry.

The chants used the original litanies that detailed the history of Ibalois, Bontocs, Kalingas and Ifugaos, Romawac said. These chants are orally handed down to younger generations.

But the children performed versions which detailed their own experiences about society and nature "and as future heirs of Mother Earth," Balanag said.

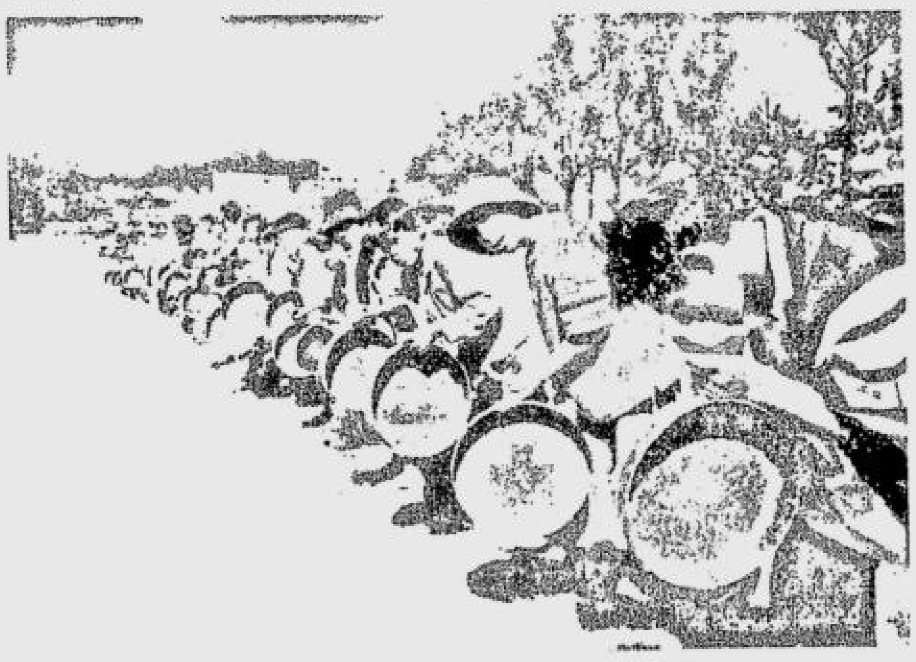
The Baguio Arts Guild chose Balanag's outfit to launch the arts festival because 108 evoked "a Buddhist number of harmony and luck."

The guild is continuing a tradition that was started in 1987, when artists like Santiago Bose, Ben Cabrera and Kidlat Tahimik hooked up to host a "merging of the arts in Baguio City."

Most of these top artists are based here. The first Baguio Arts Festival was launched in 1988, drawing international attention.

Also on Friday, Kawayan de Guia, son of Kidlat Tahimik, launched a contemporary social piece called the "Baguio Art Map Project" at the BAG headquarters at the Baguio Botanical Garden.

The festival, which celebrates Asian arts and culture, runs until Dec. 3. It highlights a special concert by Grace Nono, a film workshop by actress Boots Anson Roa and a series of gallery exhibits and performances. *Vincent Cabreza with a report from EV Espiritu, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*



BOYS from six Baguio public elementary schools play their Igorot families' ritual gongs during the opening of the 6th Baguio Arts Festival. E. V. ESPIRITU

C. Luzon cooperatives seek electric rate hikes

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO—All 13 electric cooperatives in Central Luzon are seeking increases in basic rates amid "unmanageable debts" by many of them and the 180-day deadline by the National Electrification Administration for them to shape out or ship out.

The general managers of electric cooperatives in Bataan, Bulacan, Nueva Ecija, Pampanga, Tarlac and Zambales will meet from Dec. 3 to 7 for a hearing on NEA's budget and loans and to discuss the proposed increases in basic rates. The increases are meant to stem the losses.

Based on a report on savings from systems loss reduction, the power cost of cooperatives reached between P3.10 and P3.70 per kilowatt-hour.

The new rates are not yet expected to reflect the unbundled cost or a detailed listing of expenses in providing electricity, including operations, according to Gloria Pangilinan, NEA regional information manager.

Cooperatives earlier asked the Energy Regulatory Commission to defer the unbundling of rates, saying the simultaneous implementation of this and the condonation of debts would drastically pull down their revenues.

The new rate hikes, cooperative officials said, were long overdue.

Most Central Luzon-based electric cooperatives reported operations losses from January to June this year.

These were mainly due to high system loss, increase in cost of power and the implementation of the power purchased adjustment charges that resulted in forced reduction of basic rates, according to NEA Regional Director Alberto Guiang.

As a result, only five cooperatives were able to pay their loan amortization to the NEA for the year's first semester. Only the Peninsula Electric Cooperative in Bataan made advance amortization payments for two quarters.

The loan arrears of the other cooperatives, Guiang said, had reached the "unmanageable level" of P1.37 billion as of June this year. *Tonette Orejas, PDI Central Luzon Desk*

Bomb watch formed in Kidapawan villages

KIDAPAWAN CITY—The city government has started to organize civilians here into a "Bantay Bomba Brigade" (BBB).

Mayor Luis Malaluan told the INQUIRER that the formation of a bomb watch group in every barangay was aimed at preventing local terrorists and "perhaps some suicide bombers allied with the al-Qaida" from carrying out their objectives.

Some 316 civilian volunteers were given a one-week training to become BBB members.

He said store owners, ambulant vendors, newsboys, street sweepers, security guards, farmers, professionals, students, and out-of-school youths were taught to detect probable suspects and ways to have them arrested.

Several bombs have exploded here in the past, but the most deadly was the one in October, which killed at least eight people and wounded 25 others.

Malaluan said the formation of BBB would be replicated in all of the city's 40 villages.

"They will be posted in crowded areas like in a marketplace," he said.

As this developed, Silvino Cinches, director of the National Bureau of Investigation in Central Mindanao, said aside from the BBB, "plain clothes agents of the government" were also dispatched to monitor suspicious individuals.

"Only when the government and the civilian sector are working as one can we prevent suspected bombers from sowing terror," Cinches said. *Charlie C. Señase, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

DILG orders probe on drugs in Cebu jail

By Jhunnex Napallacan
PDI Visayas Bureau

CEBU CITY—Interior Secretary Jose Lina Jr. has ordered an investigation on reports of proliferation of illegal drugs in the Bagong Buhay Rehabilitation Center (BBRC) as well as the alleged abuses of some jail officials.

Lina formed a fact-finding committee that would conduct the probe.

The committee is headed by Interior Undersecretary for Peace and Order Marius Corpus.

Roberto Abejero, Department of Interior and Local Government-Central Visayas director, was named task force vice chair while lawyers from the DILG legal service would serve as members.

Lina said the committee was formed after receiving reports about the proliferation of drugs, and other anomalies besetting the BBRC.

"If these accusations were found to have substantial evidence, the personnel found guilty will be dealt with accordingly," he said in a statement issued by Senior Insp. Carolina Borrinaga of the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP) community relations service.

Abejero said the task force would also look into the alleged special treatment accorded to "influential inmates" including cult leader Ruben Ecleo Jr.

Mayor Tomas Osmeña suspended the P1,000-monthly allowance the city grants to 90 city jail personnel following reports of widespread drug activities in the jail and granting of special treatment to moneyed prisoners.

He also berated Senior Supt. Maximo Altobar, BJMP director for Central Visayas, and Supt. James Labordo BJMP acting warden, when he informed them about the withdrawal of the allowance.

Although Abejero had yet to receive the order, he said Corpus had informed him on Monday afternoon about the committee.

Corpus, he added, might come to Cebu anytime this week to conduct the investigation.

"He told me to be ready, gather some information and talk to people including Cebu City officials," Abejero said.

Past jail wardens would be summoned to determine if these irregularities had long been existing, he added.

The BBRC officials were accused of giving special treatment to moneyed inmates like Ecleo, supreme master of the Philippine Benevolent Missionaries Association who is detained on parricide charges for the gruesome killing of his wife, Alona whose body was found inside a garbage bag in Dalaguete town on Jan. 8.

Abejero said the results of the investigation would be sent directly to Lina.

"It's about time that we take serious steps and do something so that erring personnel be out of public office," he said.

Protests force Vizcaya college exec out of office

By Melvin Gascon
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

BAMBANG, Nueva Vizcaya—Protesting teachers, students and residents scored a major victory against the embattled president of the Nueva Vizcaya State Polytechnic College (NVSPC) here on Thursday after the latter left his office, paving for their takeover of the college's main building.

This came almost two weeks of demonstrations calling for the resignation of college president Patricio Unday.

At around 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Unday was escorted out of his office by policemen after complaining of breathing difficulty and chest pains.

Unday and his escorts walked through a throng of protesters who were holding an overnight vigil outside his office.

Earlier, power was cut off in the NVSPC main building where Unday and several companions had been holed up starting Monday.

The 55-year-old Unday was taken to the Veterans' Regional Hospital (VRH) in Bayombong town, some 15 km from here.

Dr. Cirilo Galindez, VRH chief, said Unday was "in critical condition" at the hospital's intensive care unit.

Galindez said Unday was suffering from "congestive heart failure, secondary to rheumatic heart disease," and was being aided by a life-support system and a heartbeat monitor.

He said it was "possible" that Unday's condition was aggravated by stress.

Protest leaders, however, expressed doubt about Unday's reported condition, saying it might just be part of a plot to make way for his "graceful exit."

Before leaving his office, Unday left a note on top of his table, which, protesters believed, was his final bargain.

"May I just go on leave for a rest and I'll retire," read the note, a copy of which was obtained by the INQUIRER.

Protest leaders who have insisted on Unday's resignation said they were discussing his offer.

The two-week mass actions against Unday started with a sit-down strike and daily pickets in front of the NVSPC main building.

These later intensified into an attempted siege into the building, noise barrages, a motorcade around town, the burning of students' and teachers' school identification cards, and a mock funeral parade around the campus.

The teachers, students and their parents have accused Unday of ordering the supposed arbitrary collection of monthly contributions for alleged dubious projects and anomalous purchases.

In an earlier interview, Unday denied the allegations. He vowed to step down only on the order of the NVSPC board of trustees.

Also on Wednesday, the provincial board, voting 11-1, passed a resolution asking Unday "to peacefully step down immediately."

Spectators at the provincial board's gallery cheered, cried and hugged one another as Vice Gov. Luisa Cuaresma announced the approval of the board resolution.

Reports here said the NVSPC board of trustees, chaired by Commissioner Manuel Punzal of the Commission on Higher Education, was scheduled to meet today to resolve the controversy.

ROUNDUP

Alleged MILF revenge

KABACAN, Cotabato—Suspected Moro Islamic Liberation Front rebels killed a resident of Barangay Kayaga here on Wednesday, police said. The victim, identified as Gutang Puwa, died from multiple bullet wounds. Police said Puwa was the main suspect in the killing last year of an MILF member identified only as Timonan, who operates in the Limbalod Complex. Police said the rebels apparently got back at Puwa for killing one of their colleagues. ***Jeffrey M. Tupas, PDI Mindanao Bureau***

Suspected pusher nabbed

DAVAO CITY—Police arrested a suspected drug pusher here Thursday. Also arrested were scions of prominent families in the city but the police would not reveal their identities. Chief Insp. Wilkins Villanueva, chief of the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency in Southern Mindanao, identified the suspected drug pusher as Sunnie Lim, 26, of Juna Subd. in Matina District. Lim, he said, supplies shabu to the rich here.

Dennis Jay C. Santos, PDI Mindanao Bureau

Teacher killed in mishap

TUY, Batangas—A female teacher died when the driver of the motorcycle she was riding in collided with an elf van on Wednesday along the highway of Barangay Putol of this town. The victim was identified as Arlene Vasquez, 23, and the driver as Gerardo Vasquez, 16, a high school student. Both driver and teacher were seriously wounded and immediately brought to Madonna General Hospital in Balayan town by residents and barangay tanods. But Arlene died while undergoing medical treatment at the hospital. The elf van driver, Renato Capuyan, 39, a company driver of the Dyna Drugs Corp. based in Binondo, Manila is now in police custody here. ***Mei Magsino, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau***

2 car thieves nabbed

TABACO CITY—Two suspected car thieves were arrested in separate incidents here after they met an accident while fleeing on Tuesday. Rene Castelo, 32, a barker of buses here and a resident of Barangay San Juan in this city was arrested when a motorcycle he stole bumped a 15-year old high school student in Barangay San Fernando, Sto. Domingo town while speeding towards Legazpi City, an hour after the taking. Castelo and his victim were brought to the Bicol Regional and Training Hospital in Legazpi City after being seriously wounded. Meanwhile, in Bacacay town, one Shalimar Vinas was also arrested when the motorbike he stole bumped a parked passenger jeepney in Barangay Baclayon of said town. The suspect met an accident while attempting to escape. Vinas was rushed to the Saint Michael Hospital in Bacacay.

Job Belen, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

Coops' advocacy caravan

NAGA CITY—Members of cooperatives all over the country launched an advocacy caravan from Tagaytay City to Cagayan de Oro City to heighten people's awareness on the cooperative movement. Cooperatives Development Authority Director Abelardo Llarena said some 300 delegates in 40 vehicles are to drop-by here on Saturday before proceeding to Cagayan de Oro City where a national summit will be held on Nov. 28-30. Llarena said the advocacy caravan is dubbed as Lakbay Coop. ***Juan Escandor Jr., Southern Luzon Bureau***

Cop shots wife, self

POLANGUI, Albay—A police officer of Barangay Agos here allegedly committed suicide after he shot his wife because of jealousy on Monday. The police officer was identified as SPO4 Asisclo Cerillo of the Police Regional Office 4. The policeman and his wife Yolanda both sustained bullet wounds in their heads from a .45-caliber pistol believed to be owned by Cerillo. Police investigation disclosed that before the shooting incident, the couple had a heated altercation. Police said they heard three gunshots, with a few-minutes gap between the shots. Recovered from crime scene were three empty shells of .45-caliber pistol. ***Michael B. Jaucian, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau***

Fire razes 30 homes

OZAMIZ CITY—More than 30 families were rendered homeless by a two-hour fire that hit Barangay San Roque here on Friday. Among the structures gutted by the fire was the house of Sangguniang Kabataan Federation president June Francisco. San Roque chair Santiago Acapulco Jr. told reporters the fire damaged properties estimated at P15 million. Firefighters had a hard time reaching the fire site because of narrow alleys.

Ryan D. Rosauro, PDI Mindanao Bureau

Help for farmers' coops

COTABATO CITY—Agriculture Sec. Leonardo Montemayor on Thursday distributed some P1.3 million worth of livelihood assistance to several farmers' cooperatives in Sultan Kudarat and South Cotabato. Montemayor handed over the checks to farmer leaders during the 29th foundation anniversary of Sultan Kudarat. Three farmers multi-purpose cooperatives received P177,000 each for goat raising projects while the Sultan Kudarat Agro-Industrial Multi-Purpose Cooperative got P285,000 for its African *hito* (catfish) raising project. Montemayor also assured the farmers that the government is prepared for the dry spell. ***Edwin O. Fernandez, PDI Mindanao Bureau***

Mandatory drug test

CALAPAN CITY—The provincial board recently passed an ordinance requiring all elective or appointive officials and employees of the provincial government of Oriental Mindoro to undergo a drug test. The ordinance emphasized the Constitutional provision that public office is public trust. The ordinance further emphasized that the result of the drug test would be among the pre-requisites for employment or continued employment. The drug test shall be conducted at random at least once a year or as often as may be recommended by the Provincial Resources Management Office. ***Madonna Virola, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau***

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PHILIPPINE DERMATOLOGICAL SOCIETY
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PDS 2002: GOLDEN LEGACY

NATIONAL SKIN DISEASE DETECTION AND PREVENTION WEEK

Theme:

Balát. . .Alagaan Laban sA sakiT

paglilingkod ng PHILIPPINE DERMATOLOGICAL SOCIETY

November 24- 30, 2002

The Philippine Dermatological Society (PDS), which is celebrating its 50th Anniversary this year, spearheads for the third time, the National Skin Disease Detection and Prevention Week on November 24-30,2002. Initially declared as Skin Disease Detection and Prevention Week on November 6-12, 2000 under then President Joseph Ejercito Estrada's Proclamation No. 395, the week was officially endorsed and renamed National Skin Disease Detection and Prevention Week by President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo through Proclamation No. 110 the following year. The celebration is held under the auspices of the PDS in November of each year, coinciding with the Society's foundation.

With the theme,"Balat...Alagaan Laban sA sakiT," this nationwide campaign aims to uplift the health status of the Filipinos through patient education and early skin disease detection and prevention by proper dermatological care. Specific objectives of this program are:

1. To encourage self-examination of the skin for early detection of skin diseases.
2. To promote proper skin care as a preventive measure against skin diseases.
3. To provide free dermatologic consultation and treatment to those suffering from skin diseases.
4. To contribute to the development of knowledge in dermatology through research.

With these objectives in mind, various activities have been lined up by the Philippine Dermatological Society as part of its commitment to patient advocacy through health education. The Society enjoins everyone to participate in the week-long celebration of the National Skin Disease Detection and Prevention Week.

Ad Hoc Committee for the National Skin Disease Detection and Prevention Week

Arnelfa C. Paliza, M.D.
Chair

Marilu G. Aquino, M.D.
Bernadette B. Arcilla, M.D.
Benjamin Bince, M.D.
Ma. Isabel Mangubat, M.D.
Nancy Garcia-Tan, M.D.
Members

Elizabeth Amelia V. Tianco, M.D.
Adviser
(President, Philippine Dermatological Society)

Schedule of Activities

DATE	*ACTIVITY*
Sunday, Nov. 24	**Publication** of schedules of activities and venue for lectures & free clinics in Manila Bulletin and Philippine Daily Inquirer
Monday, Nov. 25	**Poster exhibits** about the PDS, common skin diseases, and services available for their management, located at the lobbies of different PDS-accredited training institutions - Jose R. Reyes Memorial Medical Center, Makati Medical Center, Skin & Cancer Foundation Inc, University of the East Ramon Magsaysay Memorial Medical Center, University of the Philippines-Philippine General Hospital, University of Santo Tomas Hospital
Tuesday, Nov. 26	**SKINHELP lectures** on "Basic Care for Healthy Skin, Hair and Nails" at different barangay health centers nationwide, in cooperation with Johnson & Johnson, Philippines
Wednesday, Nov.27	**Residents' Research Forum**, CME Auditorium, St. Martin de Porres (Medicine) Bldg., University of Santo Tomas
Thursday, Nov. 28	**SKINHELP lectures** on "Basic Care for Healthy Skin, Hair and Nails" at different secondary schools located in Metro Manila, in cooperation with Johnson & Johnson, Philippines
Friday, Nov. 29 & Saturday, Nov. 30	**Free Clinics** by PDS members nationwide, in cooperation with Stiefel Philippines and Janssen Pharmaceutica (c/o PDS Outreach Program Committee)

VENUE & SCHEDULE FOR LECTURES on "BASIC CARE FOR HEALTHY SKIN, HAIR and NAILS"

A. METRO MANILA BARANGAY HEALTH CENTERS — DATE: NOV. 26 , 2002

AREA	HEALTH CENTER	ADDRESS	TIME	LECTURER
LAS PIÑAS	Pamplona I Health Center	Brgy Hall, Real St. Las Piñas	2-3 PM	Michelle Gatchalian, MD
MUNTINLUPA CITY	Alabang Health Center	Liwasan ng Bayani, Alabang, Muntinlupa City	9-10 AM	Ma. Elena Villacorta, MD
PARAÑAQUE	Sun Valley Health Center	Annex 41, Brgy. Sun Valley, Parañaque	2-3 PM	Ma. Victoria C. Dizon, MD
TAGUIG	Tuktukan Health Center	Gen. Luna St. Brgy. Tuktukan, Taguig	2-3 PM	Jose Giovanni Dimayuga, MD
SAN JUAN	Eleuteria Health Center	#1 BS Angeles St., Brgy Sta. Lucia, S.J.	9-10 AM	Charmaine Castillo, MD
PASAY CITY	Ventanilla Health Center	Ventanilla St., Pasay City	9-10 AM	Susana O. Salvador, MD
PASIG CITY	San Joaquin Health Center	San Joaquin, Pasig City	9-10 AM	Marilou Yap-Tan, MD
QUEZON CITY	Crus na Ligas Health Center	LPG Francisco, Brgy.Crus na Ligas, Q.C.	9-10 AM	Mylene Ledda, MD
QUEZON CITY	San Vicente Health Center	Maayusin St., Quezon City	2-3 PM	Susan Arcigal, MD
MANDALUYONG CITY	Icasiano Lopez Health Center	M. Gonzaga St. Brgy. Hagdang Bato Itaas	2-3 PM	Gwendolyn Uy, MD
MAKATI CITY	Guadalupe Viejo Health Center	Brgy. Guadalupe Viejo, Guadalupe, Makati	2-3 PM	Mercedita Marcelino, MD

B. PROVINCIAL BARANGAY HEALTH CENTERS — DATE: NOV. 26, 2002

AREA	HEALTH CENTER	ADDRESS	TIME	LECTURER
PAMPANGA	Rural Health Unit II Health Center	Sindalan, San Fernando, Pampanga	9-10 AM	Menchu Liwanag, MD
PAMPANGA	Rural Health Unit IV Health Center	San Agustin, San Fernando, Pampanga	2-3 PM	Menchu Liwanag, MD
NAGA	Concepcion Health Center	Pequeña, Naga City	9-10 AM	Marilou C. Sarmiento, MD
NAGA	Calauag Health Center	Calauag, Naga City	2-3 PM	Jane Guazon- Uy, MD
CEBU	Mabolo Health Center	Mabolo, Cebu City	1-2:30 PM	Vic Verallo, MD
CEBU	Talamban Health Center	Talamban, Cebu City	9-10 AM	Eve Ramos, MD
ILOILO	Iloilo Health Center	Ortiz Extension St. , Iloilo City	9-10 AM	Elvie Dolitas, MD
ILOILO	Jaro Health Center	Rizal St., Jaro, Iloilo City	2-3 PM	Marovi Ascalon, MD
CAVITE	Molino Health Center	Molino IV, Bacoor, Cavite City	2-3 PM	Rosella Ordanez, MD
CAVITE	Caridad Health Center	Paterno St., Cavite City	9-10 AM	Rosella Ordanez, MD
DAVAO	Talomo Health Center	Talomo, Davao City	2-3 PM	Pacita Belisario, MD
DAVAO	Tomas Claudio Health Center	Tomas Claudio, Davao City	8:30- 9:30 AM	Lalaine Rabe-Visitacion, MD

C. METRO MANILA SECONDARY SCHOOLS — DATE: Nov. 28, 2002

NAME OF SCHOOL	ADDRESS	TIME	LECTURER
Jesu Mariae School of Parañaque	23 MHC St. Better Living Subd., Parañaque City	2-3 PM	Joan Ilano-Sahilan, MD
St. James School of Parañaque	8404 Dr. A Santos Ave., Parañaque City	10-11 AM	Imelda Ugalde, MD
Espiritu Santo Parochial School	1912 Rizal Avenue, Sta. Cruz, Manila	2-3 PM	Eleanor Lo-Letran, MD
Philippine College of Criminology	641 Sales St., Sta Cruz, Manila	10-11 AM	Sandra Dy-Chua, MD
San Sebastian College	C.M. Recto, Manila	10-11 AM	Joseph Ortiz, MD
Claro M. Recto High School	3rd St. Concepcion Aguila, San Miguel, Manila	2-3 PM	Rosario Guillermo, MD
Pasig Christian Academy	198-D Dr. Sixto Antonio Ave., Pasig City	2-3 PM	Christy Rodriguez, MD
Rizal High School	Sr. Sixto Antonio Ave., Pasig City	10-11 AM	Cecile T. Marcelo, MD
San Isidro National High School	Borneo St. cor. Batangas St., Makati City	2-3 PM	Jasmine Jamora, MD

CENTERS AND SCHEDULE FOR THE NATIONWIDE FREE CLINICS

A. METRO MANILA CENTERS

LOCATION	VENUE	ATTENDING PDS MEMBERS/ INSTITUTIONS	TIME / DATE
LAS PIÑAS	Bernabe Compound, Las Piñas	Aivee Aguilar, MD	9am - 12 nn Nov. 29
MARIKINA	Marikina Health Office, Shoe Ave., Sto. Niño	Marchrist Rodriguez, MD; Rosary Therese Buenviaje, MD	9am - 12 nn Nov. 29
MANILA Central	Sta. Ana Health Center, Pedro Gil St.	UP-PGH Section Of Dermatology	9am - 12nn Nov. 29
MANILA North	Dña. Aurora Quezon Memorial Health District I, Francisco St., Tondo	Jose R. Reyes Memorial Medical Center Department of Dermatology	9am - 12nn Nov. 29
QUEZON CITY	Batasan Hills, Q.C.	UERMMMC Section of Dermatology	8am - Nov. 29
MAKATI CITY	Makati Health Office , Makati City	Makati Medical Center Department of Dermatology	9am - 12nn Nov. 29
MANILA	Maria Clara Health Center	Arnelfa C. Paliza, MD; Lina De Dios-Torralba, MD UST Hospital Department of Dermatology	2pm - 4pm Nov. 29
CAVITE	Infant Jesus Academy	Arlene Abella-Sauña, MD, Skin & Cancer Foundation, Inc	9am - 12nn Nov. 29
LAGUNA	Cultural Center SPC Central School San Pablo City	Lilia O. Santiago, MD; Liza Javalera-Echivar, MD	9am - 12nn Nov. 29

B. PROVINCIAL CENTERS:

LOCATION	CENTER	ATTENDING PDS MEMBERS	TIME/ DATE
NAGA	Skin Referral Center, Panganiban Ave.	Marita Quimlat, MD	9am - 12nn Nov. 29
LEGASPI	Binatagan Gym, Washington St., Legaspi City	Nenita Manzano, MD	3pm - 5 pm Nov. 29
PAMPANGA	Northwest Health Center, Angeles City	Teresa Tolosa , MD; Lorrie Filoteo, MD	9am - 12nn Nov. 29
LA UNION	Catbagan Barangay Hall, San Fernando	Edna Nisce, MD	9am - 12nn Nov. 29
SOUTH CEBU	Tisa Health Center, Labangon, Cebu City	Cynthia Marissa Urgel, MD	9am - 12nn Nov. 29
NORTH CEBU	Barrio Luz Health Center, Banilad, Cebu City	Rosario Cañete, MD	9am - 12nn Nov. 29
ILOILO	Iloilo Medical Society Bldg., La Paz, Iloilo City	Emma Cojar, MD; Elvie Dolitas, MD Debbie Garcia-Villanueva, MD	9am - 12nn Nov. 29
CAGAYAN DE ORO	Barangay Consolacion, Cagayan De Oro	Ana Lucia S. de la Paz, MD; Cristy Marie Caumban, MD	2pm - 5pm Nov. 30
DAVAO	Davao Medical Center, Dermatology OPD	Ma.Pacita Belisario, MD; Lalaine Rabe-Visitacion, MD	9am - 12nn Nov. 29

For further inquiries, please call: PDS Secretariat, Room 1015, South Tower, Cathedral Heights Bldg., St. Luke's Medical Center, E. Rodriguez Ave., Quezon City. Tel. No. 7230101 loc. 2015 Tel./Fax No. 7277309 • Email: pds@pacific.net.ph Visit our website at: www.pds.org.ph

ROUNDUP

Alleged MILF revenge

KABACAN, Cotabato—Suspected Moro Islamic Liberation Front rebels killed a resident of Barangay Kayaga here on Wednesday, police said. The victim, identified as Gutang Puwa, died from multiple bullet wounds. Police said Puwa was the main suspect in the killing last year of an MILF member identified only as Timonan, who operates in the Limbalod Complex. Police said the rebels apparently got back at Puwa for killing one of their colleagues. ***Jeffrey M. Tupas, PDI Mindanao Bureau***

Suspected pusher nabbed

DAVAO CITY—Police arrested a suspected drug pusher here Thursday. Also arrested were scions of prominent families in the city but the police would not reveal their identities. Chief Insp. Wilkins Villanueva, chief of the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency in Southern Mindanao, identified the suspected drug pusher as Sunnie Lim, 26, of Juna Subd. in Matina District. Lim, he said, supplies shabu to the rich here.

Dennis Jay C. Santos, PDI Mindanao Bureau

Teacher killed in mishap

TUY, Batangas—A female teacher died when the driver of the motorcycle she was riding in collided with an elf van on Wednesday along the highway of Barangay Putol of this town. The victim was identified as Arlene Vasquez, 23, and the driver as Gerardo Vasquez, 16, a high school student. Both driver and teacher were seriously wounded and immediately brought to Madonna General Hospital in Balayan town by residents and barangay tanods. But Arlene died while undergoing medical treatment at the hospital. The elf van driver, Renato Capuyan, 39, a company driver of the Dyna Drugs Corp. based in Binondo, Manila is now in police custody here. ***Mei Magsino, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau***

2 car thieves nabbed

TABACO CITY—Two suspected car thieves were arrested in separate incidents here after they met an accident while fleeing on Tuesday. Rene Castelo, 32, a barker of buses here and a resident of Barangay San Juan in this city was arrested when a motorcycle he stole bumped a 15-year old high school student in Barangay San Fernando, Sto. Domingo town while speeding towards Legazpi City, an hour after the taking. Castelo and his victim were brought to the Bicol Regional and Training Hospital in Legazpi City after being seriously wounded. Meanwhile, in Bacacay town, one Shalimar Vinas was also arrested when the motorbike he stole bumped a parked passenger jeepney in Barangay Baclayon of said town. The suspect met an accident while attempting to escape. Vinas was rushed to the Saint Michael Hospital in Bacacay.

Job Belen, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

Coops' advocacy caravan

NAGA CITY—Members of cooperatives all over the country launched an advocacy caravan from Tagaytay City to Cagayan de Oro City to heighten people's awareness on the cooperative movement. Cooperatives Development Authority Director Abelardo Llarena said some 300 delegates in 40 vehicles are to drop-by here on Saturday before proceeding to Cagayan de Oro City where a national summit will be held on Nov. 28-30. Llarena said the advocacy caravan is dubbed as Lakbay Coop. ***Juan Escandor Jr., Southern Luzon Bureau***

Cop shots wife, self

POLANGUI, Albay—A police officer of Barangay Agos here allegedly committed suicide after he shot his wife because of jealousy on Monday. The police officer was identified as SPO4 Asisclo Cerillo of the Police Regional Office 4. The policeman and his wife Yolanda both sustained bullet wounds in their heads from a .45-caliber pistol believed to be owned by Cerillo. Police investigation disclosed that before the shooting incident, the couple had a heated altercation. Police said they heard three gunshots, with a few-minutes gap between the shots. Recovered from crime scene were three empty shells of .45-caliber pistol. ***Michael B. Jaucian, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau***

Fire razes 30 homes

OZAMIZ CITY—More than 30 families were rendered homeless by a two-hour fire that hit Barangay San Roque here on Friday. Among the structures gutted by the fire was the house of Sangguniang Kabataan Federation president June Francisco. San Roque chair Santiago Acapulco Jr. told reporters the fire damaged properties estimated at P15 million. Firefighters had a hard time reaching the fire site because of narrow alleys.

Ryan D. Rosauro, PDI Mindanao Bureau

Help for farmers' coops

COTABATO CITY—Agriculture Sec. Leonardo Montemayor on Thursday distributed some P1.3 million worth of livelihood assistance to several farmers' cooperatives in Sultan Kudarat and South Cotabato. Montemayor handed over the checks to farmer leaders during the 29th foundation anniversary of Sultan Kudarat. Three farmers multi-purpose cooperatives received P177,000 each for goat raising projects while the Sultan Kudarat Agro-Industrial Multi-Purpose Cooperative got P285,000 for its African *hito* (catfish) raising project. Montemayor also assured the farmers that the government is prepared for the dry spell. ***Edwin O. Fernandez, PDI Mindanao Bureau***

Mandatory drug test

CALAPAN CITY—The provincial board recently passed an ordinance requiring all elective or appointive officials and employees of the provincial government of Oriental Mindoro to undergo a drug test. The ordinance emphasized the Constitutional provision that public office is public trust. The ordinance further emphasized that the result of the drug test would be among the pre-requisites for employment or continued employment. The drug test shall be conducted at random at least once a year or as often as may be recommended by the Provincial Resources Management Office. ***Madonna Virola, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau***

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NATIONAL SKIN DISEASE DETECTION AND PREVENTION WEEK

PHILIPPINE DERMATOLOGICAL SOCIETY
1952

PDS 2002: GOLDEN LEGACY

Theme:

Balát.. Alagaan Laban sA sakiT

paglilingkod ng PHILIPPINE DERMATOLOGICAL SOCIETY

November 24- 30, 2002

The Philippine Dermatological Society (PDS), which is celebrating its 50th Anniversary this year,. spearheads for the third time, the National Skin Disease Detection and Prevention Week on November 24-30,2002. Initially declared as Skin Disease Detection and Prevention Week on November 6-12, 2000 under then President Joseph Ejercito Estrada's Proclamation No. 395, the week was officially endorsed and renamed National Skin Disease Detection and Prevention Week by President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo through Proclamation No. 110 the following year. The celebration is held under the auspices of the PDS in November of each year, coinciding with the Society's foundation.

With the theme, "Balat...Alagaan Laban sA sakiT," this nationwide campaign aims to uplift the health status of the Filipinos through patient education and early skin disease detection and prevention by proper dermatological care. Specific objectives of this program are:

1. To encourage self-examination of the skin for early detection of skin diseases.
2. To promote proper skin care as a preventive measure against skin diseases.
3. To provide free dermatologic consultation and treatment to those suffering from skin diseases.
4. To contribute to the development of knowledge in dermatology through research.

With these objectives in mind, various activities have been lined up by the Philippine Dermatological Society as part of its commitment to patient advocacy through health education. The Society enjoins everyone to participate in the week-long celebration of the National Skin Disease Detection and Prevention Week.

Ad Hoc Committee for the
National Skin Disease Detection
and Prevention Week

Arnelfa C. Paliza, M.D.
Chair

Marilu G. Aquino, M.D.
Bernadette B. Arcilla, M.D.
Benjamin Bince, M.D.
Ma. Isabel Mangubat, M.D.
Nancy Garcia-Tan, M.D.
Members

Elizabeth Amelia V. Tianco, M.D.
Adviser
(President, Philippine Dermatological Society)

Schedule of Activities

DATE	*ACTIVITY*
Sunday, Nov. 24	**Publication** of schedules of activities and venue for lectures & free clinics in **Manila Bulletin and Philippine Daily Inquirer**
Monday, Nov. 25	**Poster exhibits** about the PDS, common skin diseases, and services available for their management, located at the lobbies of different PDS-accredited training institutions - Jose R. Reyes Memorial Medical Center, Makati Medical Center, Skin & Cancer Foundation Inc, University of the East Ramon Magsaysay Memorial Medical Center, University of the Philippines-Philippine General Hospital, University of Santo Tomas Hospital
Tuesday, Nov. 26	**SKINHELP lectures** on "Basic Care for Healthy Skin, Hair and Nails" at different barangay health centers nationwide, in cooperation with Johnson & Johnson, Philippines
Wednesday, Nov.27	**Residents' Research Forum**, CME Auditorium, St. Martin de Porres (Medicine) Bldg., University of Santo Tomas
Thursday, Nov. 28	**SKINHELP lectures** on "Basic Care for Healthy Skin, Hair and Nails" at different secondary schools located in Metro Manila, in cooperation with Johnson & Johnson, Philippines
Friday, Nov. 29 & Saturday, Nov. 30	**Free Clinics** by PDS members nationwide, in cooperation with Stiefel Philippines and Janssen Pharmaceutica (c/o PDS Outreach Program Committee)

VENUE & SCHEDULE FOR LECTURES on "BASIC CARE FOR HEALTHY SKIN, HAIR and NAILS"

A. METRO MANILA BARANGAY HEALTH CENTERS — DATE: NOV. 26 , 2002

AREA	HEALTH CENTER	ADDRESS	TIME	LECTURER
LAS PIÑAS	Pamplona I Health Center	Brgy. Hall, Real St. Las Piñas	2-3 PM	Michelle Gatchalian, MD
MUNTINLUPA CITY	Alabang Health Center	Liwasan ng Bayani, Alabang, Muntinlupa City	9-10 AM	Ma. Elena Villacorta, MD
PARAÑAQUE	Sun Valley Health Center	Annex 41, Brgy. Sun Valley, Parañaque	2-3 PM	Ma. Victoria C. Dizon, MD
TAGUIG	Tuktukan Health Center	Gen. Luna St. Brgy. Tuktukan, Taguig	2-3 PM	Jose Giovanni Dimayuga, MD
SAN JUAN	Eleuteria Health Center	#1 BS Angeles St., Brgy. Sta. Lucia, S.J.	9-10 AM	Charmaine Castillo, MD
PASAY CITY	Ventanilla Health Center	Ventanilla St., Pasay City	9-10 AM	Susana O. Salvador, MD
PASIG CITY	San Joaquin Health Center	San Joaquin, Pasig City	9-10 AM	Marilou Yap-Tan, MD
QUEZON CITY	Crus na Ligas Health Center	LPG Francisco, Brgy.Crus na Ligas, Q.C.	9-10 AM	Mylene Ledda, MD
QUEZON CITY	San Vicente Health Center	Maayusin St., Quezon City	2-3 PM	Susan Arcigal, MD
MANDALUYONG CITY	Icasiano Lopez Health Center	M. Gonzaga St. Brgy. Hagdang Bato Itaas	2-3 PM	Gwendolyn Uy, MD
MAKATI CITY	Guadalupe Viejo Health Center	Brgy. Guadalupe Viejo, Guadalupe, Makati	2-3 PM	Mercedita Marcelino, MD

B. PROVINCIAL BARANGAY HEALTH CENTERS — DATE: NOV. 26, 2002

AREA	HEALTH CENTER	ADDRESS	TIME	LECTURER
PAMPANGA	Rural Health Unit II Health Center	Sindalan, San Fernando, Pampanga	9-10 AM	Menchu Liwanag, MD
PAMPANGA	Rural Health Unit IV Health Center	San Agustin, San Fernando, Pampanga	2-3 PM	Menchu Liwanag, MD
NAGA	Concepcion Health Center	Pequeña, Naga City	9-10 AM	Marilou C. Sarmiento, MD
NAGA	Calauag Health Center	Calauag, Naga City	2-3 PM	Jane Guazon- Uy, MD
CEBU	Mabolo Health Center	Mabolo, Cebu City	1-2:30 PM	Vic Verallo, MD
CEBU	Talamban Health Center	Talamban, Cebu City	9-10 AM	Eve Ramos, MD
ILOILO	Iloilo Health Center	Ortiz Extension St. , Iloilo City	9-10 AM	Elvie Dofitas, MD
ILOILO	Jaro Health Center	Rizal St., Jaro, Iloilo City	2-3 PM	Marovi Ascalon, MD
CAVITE	Molino Health Center	Molino IV, Bacoor, Cavite City	2-3 PM	Rosella Ordanez, MD
CAVITE	Caridad Health Center	Paterno St., Cavite City	9-10 AM	Rosella Ordanez, MD
DAVAO	Talomo Health Center	Talomo, Davao City	2-3 PM	Pacita Belisario, MD
DAVAO	Tomas Claudio Health Center	Tomas Claudio, Davao City	8:30- 9:30 AM	Lalaine Rabe-Visitacion, MD

C. METRO MANILA SECONDARY SCHOOLS — DATE: Nov. 28, 2002

NAME OF SCHOOL	ADDRESS	TIME	LECTURER
Jesu Mariae School of Parañaque	23 MHC St. Better Living Subd., Parañaque City	2-3 PM	Joan Ilano-Sahilan, MD
St. James School of Parañaque	8404 Dr. A Santos Ave., Parañaque City	10-11 AM	Imelda Ugalde, MD
Espiritu Santo Parochial School	1912 Rizal Avenue, Sta. Cruz, Manila	2-3 PM	Eleanor Lo-Letran, MD
Philippine College of Criminology	641 Sales St., Sta Cruz, Manila	10-11 AM	Sandra Dy-Chua, MD
San Sebastian College	C.M. Recto, Manila	10-11 AM	Joseph Ortiz, MD
Claro M. Recto High School	3rd St. Concepcion Aguila, San Miguel, Manila	2-3 PM	Rosario Guillermo, MD
Pasig Christian Academy	198-D Dr. Sixto Antonio Ave., Pasig City	2-3 PM	Christy Rodriguez, MD
Rizal High School	Sr. Sixto Antonio Ave., Pasig City	10-11 AM	Cecile T. Marcelo, MD
San Isidro National High School	Borneo St. cor. Batangas St., Makati City	2-3 PM	Jasmine Jamora, MD

CENTERS AND SCHEDULE FOR THE NATIONWIDE FREE CLINICS

A. METRO MANILA CENTERS

LOCATION	VENUE	ATTENDING PDS MEMBERS/ INSTITUTIONS	TIME / DATE
LAS PIÑAS	Bernabe Compound, Las Piñas	Aivee Aguilar, MD	9am - 12 nn Nov. 29
MARIKINA	Marikina Health Office, Shoe Ave., Sto. Niño	Marichrist Rodriguez, MD; Rosary Therese Buenviaje, MD	9am - 12 nn Nov. 29
MANILA Central	Sta. Ana Health Center, Pedro Gil St.	UP-PGH Section Of Dermatology	9am - 12nn Nov. 29
MANILA North	Dña. Aurora Quezon Memorial Health District I, Francisco St., Tondo	Jose R. Reyes Memorial Medical Center Department of Dermatology	9am - 12nn Nov. 29
QUEZON CITY	Balasan Hills, Q.C.	UERMMMC Section of Dermatology	8am - Nov. 29
MAKATI CITY	Makati Health Office , Makati City	Makati Medical Center Department of Dermatology	9am - 12nn Nov. 29
MANILA	Maria Clara Health Center	Arnelfa C. Paliza, MD; Lina De Dios-Torralba, MD UST Hospital Department of Dermatology	2pm - 4pm Nov. 29
CAVITE	Infant Jesus Academy	Arlene Abella-Sauña, MD, Skin & Cancer Foundation, Inc.	9am - 12nn Nov. 29
LAGUNA	Cultural Center SPC Central School San Pablo City	Lilia O. Santiago, MD; Liza Javalera-Echiver, MD	9am - 12nn Nov. 29

B. PROVINCIAL CENTERS:

LOCATION	CENTER	ATTENDING PDS MEMBERS	TIME/ DATE
NAGA	Skin Referral Center, Panganiban Ave.	Marita Quimlat, MD	9am - 12nn Nov. 29
LEGASPI	Binatagan Gym, Washington St., Legaspi City	Nenita Manzano, MD	3pm - 5 pm Nov. 29
PAMPANGA	Northwest Health Center, Angeles City	Teresa Tolosa , MD; Lorrie Filoteo, MD	9am - 12nn Nov. 29
LA UNION	Catbagan Barangay Hall, San Fernando	Edna Nisce, MD	9am - 12nn Nov. 29
SOUTH CEBU	Tisa Health Center, Labangon, Cebu City	Cynthia Marissa Urgel, MD	9am - 12nn Nov. 29
NORTH CEBU	Barrio Luz Health Center, Banilad, Cebu City	Rosario Cañeto, MD	9am - 12nn Nov. 29
ILOILO	Iloilo Medical Society Bldg., La Paz, Iloilo City	Emma Cejar, MD; Elvie Dofitas, MD Debbie Garcia-Villanueva, MD	9am - 12nn Nov. 29
CAGAYAN DE ORO	Barangay Consolacion, Cagayan De Oro	Ana Lucia S. de la Paz, MD; Cristy Marie Caumban, MD	2pm - 5pm Nov. 30
DAVAO	Davao Medical Center, Dermatology OPD	Ma.Pacita Belisario, MD; Lalaine Rabe-Visitacion, MD	9am - 12nn Nov. 29

For further inquiries, please call: **PDS Secretariat**, Room 1015, South Tower, Cathedral Heights Bldg., St. Luke's Medical Center, E. Rodriguez Ave., Quezon City. Tel. No. 7230101 loc. 2015 Tel./Fax No. 7277309 • Email: pds@pacific.net.ph Visit our website at: www.pds.org.ph

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INQUIRER Mindanao
Editor Jun Bandayrel ◆ Bureau Chief Nico A. Alconaba

Building a new Galilee in Bugwak

By Rosa-May V. de Guzman
Cotabato

Galilee, the Biblical place where Jesus spent most of his earthly life, is a land of rolling hills lying beneath towering mountain ranges. It reminds one of the rolling hills of Timanan, South Upi in Maguindanao and the highlands of Antipas in Cotabato. The only difference is that Galilee, both during the time of Jesus and today, is a most fertile and productive area while the uplands of Timanan and Antipas are mostly denuded hills.

In Antipas is a very remote place called Bugwak, about 50 km or a two-hour drive from Kidapawan City. Bugwak consists mostly of denuded and badly eroded hills, strewn with boulders and stones and barren except for the usual second growth forest vegetation and cogon grass. The remaining topsoil is washed down after heavy rains, especially during the rainy season.

But Bugwak is not entirely without water. There are mud pools and small swampy areas that are mostly remnants of heavy downpours. Creeks are fed by water gushing from springs in the ground. In fact the word *bugwak* in Ilonggo means "gushing spring."

Somewhere in Bugwak is a farm called Galilee, built by a French missionary priest assigned to Mindanao.

How it all began

It all started when Fr. Yves Caroff, OMI, arrived in the Philippines in 1981. Born and raised in the farming region of France, he combined his missionary work with efforts to help his flock improve their lives through better farming technology.

Assigned to Timanan, South Upi among the Tirurays, he started a demonstration farm in Barangay Kaos. The Tirurays then could barely eke out a living from their barren hilly land.

The presence of various armed groups helped in the deterioration of peace and order in the area. In 1991, Father Caroff became a kidnap victim himself. It was obvious, upon his release, that it would be very difficult for him to return to his assignment.

But he had found his missionary thrust working among the tri-people of the highlands, helping them find ways to make their land more productive. In June 1993, he started the Oblate Galilee Farm in Antipas.

Father Caroff said he started with nine hectares of undulating hills and creeks. There are five hills as high as 32 meters. There are three dried creeks, a fourth one with springs, and another, a flowing creek about 200 meters long.

BUGWAK'S ricefields, above, teeming with life. Left, Father Caroff with Fr. Zaldy Orola, both assigned in the Oblate Galilee Foundation Inc. ROSA-MAY DE GUZMAN

Priority was given to the development of the springs. The flowing water was channeled through hoses down to a reservoir. To bring the water from the reservoir to the higher portions of the land, Father Caroff installed hydraulic rams that use air pressure generated by the water flow to drive the water up a pipe. Later, an artesian well was dug to provide a safe water supply.

In the stony slopes, holes had to be dug and filled with soil and compost before trees and other useful vegetation could be planted.

An experimental farm

In recent years, the Galilee farm has become a favorite visiting place for farmers and school children from the neighboring areas, as well as from foreign countries.

They come not for any farm technology but for the results of successful experimentations on various upland farming technologies integrated into a viable upland farming enterprise.

These technologies include water-resource development (priority given to conserving and developing water sources); sloping agricultural land technology or SALT (to control erosion and improve soil fertility); crop diversification and alternative crop farming; production and use of organic fertilizers and pesticides; livestock farming not only for the additional income but as source of fertilizers; reforestation for various purposes—as source of building materials, fruit trees for additional income but also to control erosion; and the most recent food processing center.

People come not only to see but to learn, the latter being the principal goal of the farm. The first and most avid learners are the farm employees who have begun to apply these technologies to their own farms, even banding together to help one another do so.

The farm, which is now registered as a regular foundation, also provides for continuous in-service training of its staff either on-site or in other agricultural training centers in the country.

There is also a modest college scholarship program (veterinary and agricultural science) for some selected youth to prepare them to assume a leadership role in the project later. It has helped some of its landless cooperators buy a few hectares of land and develop them in line with the Galilee farm methods.

"We think the existence of some kind of low-level agricultural center in isolated areas such as Bugwak can contribute a great deal to bring new hope and development to isolated poor farmers who constitute one of the poorest and most neglected social groups in the country; and as a result it may also contribute to solve some of the problems of peace and order," said Father Carrof.

The priest boasts of the Galilee Farm Program, which he calls "dextrose." D is for demonstration. "We teach not so much through lectures as by doing and showing," he said.

EX is for experimentation. "We are not experts; we try new ways, new crops and we share our findings with interested people." Experimentation, Father Caroff said, can be costly, but it pays in the long run.

TR stands for training. "The training of the staff is of vital importance for the future of the project. Interested people from distant places spend a few weeks as trainees/observers."

O is for "oxygenation" or reforestation. "This is very important particularly in parts of our land which are barren and difficult to cultivate."

S is for service. The Galilee Farm provides many services to its neighbors, not only in the field of agriculture but also by answering some of their urgent needs such as help in case of health problems or accidents.

E is for extension. "Our aim is not to establish a nice project in isolation from our neighbors but to make our farm a place where they and all interested farmers can discover new ways adapted to their needs to improve their own farms, and thereby to improve their standard of living, said Caroff.

Galilee farm today

Today about 80 percent of the total land area—the slopes, the hills, the creeks—are productive with fishponds, rice fields, fruit trees as well as other types of trees, and various other crops.

The formerly unproductive dry creeks have been dammed and converted to fishponds where *tilapia* and *dalag* (mudfish) are raised.

Once barren slopes have been planted with hardwood trees, which fills the farm's own lumber needs, and fruit trees (mango, marang, durian, lemon, etc. as well as banana and papaya). There are two rice fields and several plots for legumes and other cash crops as well as vegetables.

Various farm animals are raised: milking goats, cows, pigs, rabbits, chickens, horses and carabaos. These are sold in the town market or are bought by people who come to the farm. The farm has started to engage in the processing of meat and fruit products: ham, sausage, jam, marmalades, etc.

About 40 farmers help run the farm; seven are regular employees while the others are casual workers. Their families either live in the farm or nearby.

There are 15 structures in the farm which include several small barns for the livestock, a schoolhouse, a clinic manned by a midwife, a dormitory for visitors, the food processing plant, a small chapel, and the house of Father Caroff. He has a laptop computer and a radio transmitter.

Sunday mass is celebrated for the Catholics by Father Caroff himself.

The farm's 4-wheel drive vehicle is not only used for farm business and errands but also for transporting sick residents of the area to the town proper when their ailment requires further treatment.

The farm income itself is not enough to fund its present operations much less additional improvements. Much of the funds come from donations of private individuals, mostly French friends of Father Caroff. Thus the Galilee community extends much farther than those residing in the immediate area.

Iligan City Mayor Franklin Quijano: Local government leadership awardee

ILIGAN City Mayor Franklin M. Quijano is an economist-turned-lawyer and at 46, is one of the country's youngest city mayors. The youngest child of a mechanic and a public school teacher, Quijano was a scholar of the Iligan City government when he took his AB Economics degree graduating cum laude at the University of San Carlos. At the same time, he worked to help his siblings through school. He finished all the requirements for a graduate degree in Economics but, decided to take up law instead, passing the bar in 1983. He is married to Salma Theresa Gerona and has four children.

Born in Dansalan (Marawi City) in 1955, Quijano speaks fluent Maranao and understands the Maranao culture well enough for him to have balanced the inflammatory rhetoric between Iliganons and the Moros over the airlanes when the Estrada administration's all-out war against Moro rebels had threatened to spill over to Iligan from Kauswagan, Lanao del Norte where the 'war' erupted two years ago.

He handled well another crisis, the closure of the National Steel Corp., which dealt a big blow to the local economy, by bringing hope to the Iliganons. These, among other major achievements as a two-term Mayor of Iligan, earned for him high marks among the judges, who were looking for 'an innovative and creative leader in solving community problems to improve the lives of his constituents.

After his performance was evaluated based on the criteria of, among others, transparency, accountability, rule of law, organization and management and service delivery, Quijano finally got the judges' nod from out of 36 city mayor-nominees.

The Local Government Leadership Award was given to Quijano and Cebu Mayor Tomas Osmeña this year to celebrate the 11th anniversary of the Local Government Code; the 86th anniversary of the Philippine Senate; and the 50th anniversary of the National College of Public Administration of the University of the Philippines. His prize of P100,000 will be donated to a children's museum in Iligan to be built beside the Macaraeg-Macapagal Museum in Timoga, Iligan City. INQUIRER correspondent Christine Godinez-Ortega interviewed him about his thoughts on being mayor of Iligan and his future plans for the city.

Excerpts from the interview:

Q: Why do you think were you chosen as the best mayor in the country?

A: It was a tedious screening process. The nominees were screened based on the nomination and supporting records and documents. Subsequently, the selection committee sent a team to the respective jurisdictions (provinces, towns and cities) for verification and actual interviews of individuals and groups. Finally, there was the panel interview by the selection committee under intense interrogation and under time constraints. Perhaps, it was the ability of Iligan to rise above all the adversities. It may also be the ability of our leaders in business and society to knit their brows to arrive at diverse plans, programs, projects and strategies to get us away from all these difficulties.

QUIJANO CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Q:What does this award mean to you and Iligan City?

A: It is a fresh mandate and a God-sent sign of hope. It should serve to ask everyone to become leaders in their own right, in their households, *puroks*, zones, sitios and barangays. Leaders are first in sacrifice but last to reap its fruits. We can only have good leaders when everyone leading become good followers.

Q: Please explain the roles of city mayors in Mindanao's development as well as in the total national development.

A: Cities are engines for development. If all the cities are prepared to play their roles as development catalysts, our country will improve its growth potential; agriculture, industry, information and communication technology will be enhanced; people distribution will be dispersed and Metro Manila will, as a consequence, experience decongestion.

Q:What is your vision for Iligan City in the next five years?

A: A city which will experience sustained growth as its people blessed by the Almighty unite in developing the agri-forestal and industrial base and in diversifying socio-cultural and economic activities.

Q:How can the different sectors of society help in achieving this vision?

A: Engage in interactive workshops to prepare concrete operational plans. Then act out their important roles.

Q:What are the strengths and weaknesses of Iligan as a city? Or, what are the city's biggest problems?

A: Iligan is blessed with highly skilled populace, who are willing to sacrifice for the sake of its citizenry in achieving a just and equitable society. It is a city which, in the past years, has established so much confidence through dialogue and peace and order. It still is reputed of being a troubled place despite its record of having the lowest crime rate first when it was with Central Mindanao and now when it is part of Northern Mindanao. Some of the biggest problems faced by the city today are: employment and optimum utilization of human resources; the need to massively utilize the hinterland and the vast idle lands for agriculture and forestry; how to boost the industries to cause a turn-around [in the economy]; the handling of youth: drugs, gang wars, juvenile delinquency; and, the problem of continuing the dialogue among the tri-peoples, Higaonon, Maranao and Maragat.

Q:What are your plans for the city in the next five years?

A: Integrate all the barangay development strategies and barangay development plans to arrive at a more comprehensive and sustainable city development strategy and by enlisting the help of all productive sectors.

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November 24, 2002

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Meralco takeover a 'done deal'

By Ronnel W. Domingo

THE GOVERNMENT takeover of the Manila Electric Co. is a "done deal" and government nominees will take the top seats in its board of directors, the leader of a consumer group said yesterday.

Alain Pascua, national chair of the Katipunan ng mga Anak ng Bayan-All Filipino Democratic Movement (or Kaakbay), said the takeover was expected to be implemented within the week.

"We have received reports that Oscar Reyes, a close associate of Finance Secretary Jose Isidro Camacho, will replace Manuel Lopez as Meralco chair," Pascua said in a phone interview. "It is also possible that Camacho, (Energy Secretary) Vincent Perez Jr. and (former National Power Corp. president) Jesus Alcordo will join Reyes."

Pascua is also secretariat head of the Abolish the PPA Coalition (or Appac), which has filed before the Pasig City Regional Trial Court a case questioning the legality of the controversial Purchased Power Adjustment.

"Given that the takeover is a done deal and that the government is doing this in the interest of the public, we call on the new Meralco board not to seek reconsideration of the Supreme Court decision ordering a P28-billion refund to customers," Pascua said.

He said the new board should immediately implement the refund in a just and equitable way—whether in cash, credit for future consumption, or reimbursement.

"The new Meralco management should also implement drastic measures to lower electricity rates, possibly through restructuring the PPA or getting rid of it altogether," Pascua said.

No Meralco takeover

From page A1

Lopez had phoned him asking for help.

"They called, and I agreed to think of ways to help them," he said. "It was they who told me about their concerns of an adverse Supreme Court decision and so I, given the government's substantial stake, drafted a plan that I sincerely believed would be mutually beneficial to the government and the other shareholders."

He added: "It was done in good faith and I am saddened with the way it was twisted by some quarters. There is no malice in what I did, and it was definitely not a squeeze play on the Lopezes, as some people have tried to project.

"What I had proposed is a simple management control for the government given that it is the biggest shareholder in Meralco but has been reduced to a passive participant in the board with only three representatives out of 11."

Unknown to GMA

Tiglao repeatedly stressed that Camacho's proposal "did not reach the President."

He said the Lopezes raised their objection to Camacho's idea during their hastily arranged dinner-meeting with Ms Macapagal on Nov. 15, when the high court handed down its decision on the refund.

"The President was surprised," said Tiglao, who was at the dinner. "Camacho had to explain it. He said he's not continuing the discussion anymore."

Asked if Ms Macapagal was opposed to Camacho's proposal, Tiglao replied: "She was concerned over the reaction. She was concerned that the Lopez family misinterpreted the intention of that draft . . . as a government takeover."

He said it was then that the President assigned Energy Secretary Vincent Perez, instead of Camacho, to form a "working group" to pursue the discussion over Meralco's financial standing.

"Since (the Lopezes) reacted strongly to Camacho's rough draft proposal, such kind of talks have been discontinued," Tiglao said. "They've decided that the venue for such talks for enhancing Meralco's stability should be in that working group."

Asked if the option of a government takeover was still open for discussion, he said: "Right now we prefer for the working group to raise that issue."

"(The matter) can't be closed in the working group's discussion," he went on. "Of course, (it has to be) acceptable to creditors, the government, the (Lopez) family. It's a matter of getting a consensus.

"It's unfortunate that there's an interpretation of a (government) takeover or whatever. This is all intended to ensure that Meralco's financial stability is maintained so that if and when the Supreme Court issues its (final) ruling, there will be an orderly implementation of the refund."

'Open' Lopezes

Tiglao said Gabby Lopez "apparently got some indication that there would be such a Supreme Court ruling."

"So they initiated discussions with (Camacho) because Camacho has been a friend," he said.

Camacho reportedly got the impression that the Lopezes would be "open" to talks of changes in management as a means of strengthening Meralco's credit standing.

"Gabby Lopez did not agree to it, could not agree to it in its entirety, but Camacho's impression was they would at least be open to such discussions," Tiglao said.

"Camacho's proposal doesn't involve change in ownership structure, which is very important," he said, referring to the Marcos takeover of Meralco during martial law.

Tiglao had earlier tried to hide the Nov. 15 meeting. He only confirmed it on Nov. 19 when asked about it during a news briefing.

He did not mention anything then about Camacho's proposal. He said the Lopezes had only asked for an "open line of communication" with Malacañang on how to resolve their dilemma.

Camacho said he believed "it was about time the government had a more active involvement in the running of (Meralco)."

He said his proposal was a mere interim solution and involved no grand plan for the state to wrest control of Meralco, as what happened during Marcos' time.

"The intention is for the government to eventually sell its shares in Meralco, as what the finance department had been trying to do for some years already (with regard to) the 10-percent state equity but which weak market conditions had always prevented. And now would even be a worse time to do it given how the share prices of Meralco have declined," he said.

Camacho acknowledged that his proposal might give the impression that Meralco was not being run well.

"But all this should be water under the bridge because as what had been reported, the proposal was turned down and it is now Secretary Perez leading the team that is drafting options to make Meralco viable," he said.

He also insisted that the President never saw the draft agreement he sent to the Lopezes.

Camacho said that aside from the Lopez group, Citibank officials had also met with him to discuss what the government intended to do with Meralco.

Banking sources said Citibank had one of the biggest exposures in the power firm, with loans of about $100 million.

'Why the interest?'

In his weekly program over dzBB yesterday, Roco wondered aloud why Meralco's problems as a result of the high court's ruling should immediately trigger such concern from Camacho and Justice Secretary Hernando Perez.

"(These Cabinet men) are already encountering difficulties running their departments. Why would they also want to run Meralco? The people are asking: Why such an interest?" he said in Filipino, adding:

"If a utility collapses, the government should of course take over in view of its franchise ... But if the government is showing apparent haste to take over, it invites suspicion. The President should explain all this."

And should the government start managing Meralco, Roco said, the firm might comply with the refund order by paying back consumers with "money from taxes, not Meralco's."

"That's why the government should keep its hands off such companies, whether these simply violated the law or were mismanaged," he said.

But Bayan Muna Rep. Crispin Beltran challenged the administration to put Meralco and the Lopez group "in their right place" by sequestering the utility.

"The President should dare to offend the rich elitist minority by standing by the poor majority and defending them against Meralco's gross business practices," Beltran said in a statement.

He said that Meralco should be put under a trusteeship for the Filipino people, and that consumer groups should be consulted in the takeover and management.

For and against

Opposition Representatives Ted Failon and Gilbert Remulla—both former employees of ABS-CBN—questioned the planned takeover.

But others, including Lakas Representatives Prospero Pichay and Jacinto Paras and opposition Rep. Didagen Dilangalen expressed support for it.

Remulla said the takeover was unnecessary as long as the Lopez family was committed to make the P28-billion refund.

"A government takeover is too strong and too extreme a measure," he said. "It could scare away investors because it sends the wrong signal that the government can just impose its will on them without the benefit of due process."

Failon said the government had a bad record in the operation of public utilities and companies.

"In the first place, the Supreme Court ruling is not final yet. It seems like (Malacañang) already knows the outcome," he said.

Congressmen who had earlier filed resolutions calling for a government takeover and recall of the Meralco franchise welcomed the idea.

Pichay, chair of the House defense committee, supported the government's move but denied that it was a takeover as reported.

"The utility is still owned by the private sector," he said. "The government is merely exercising its right to more board seats because the government is the biggest stockholder. But it does not mean that with more board seats, it will be the government that will manage Meralco."

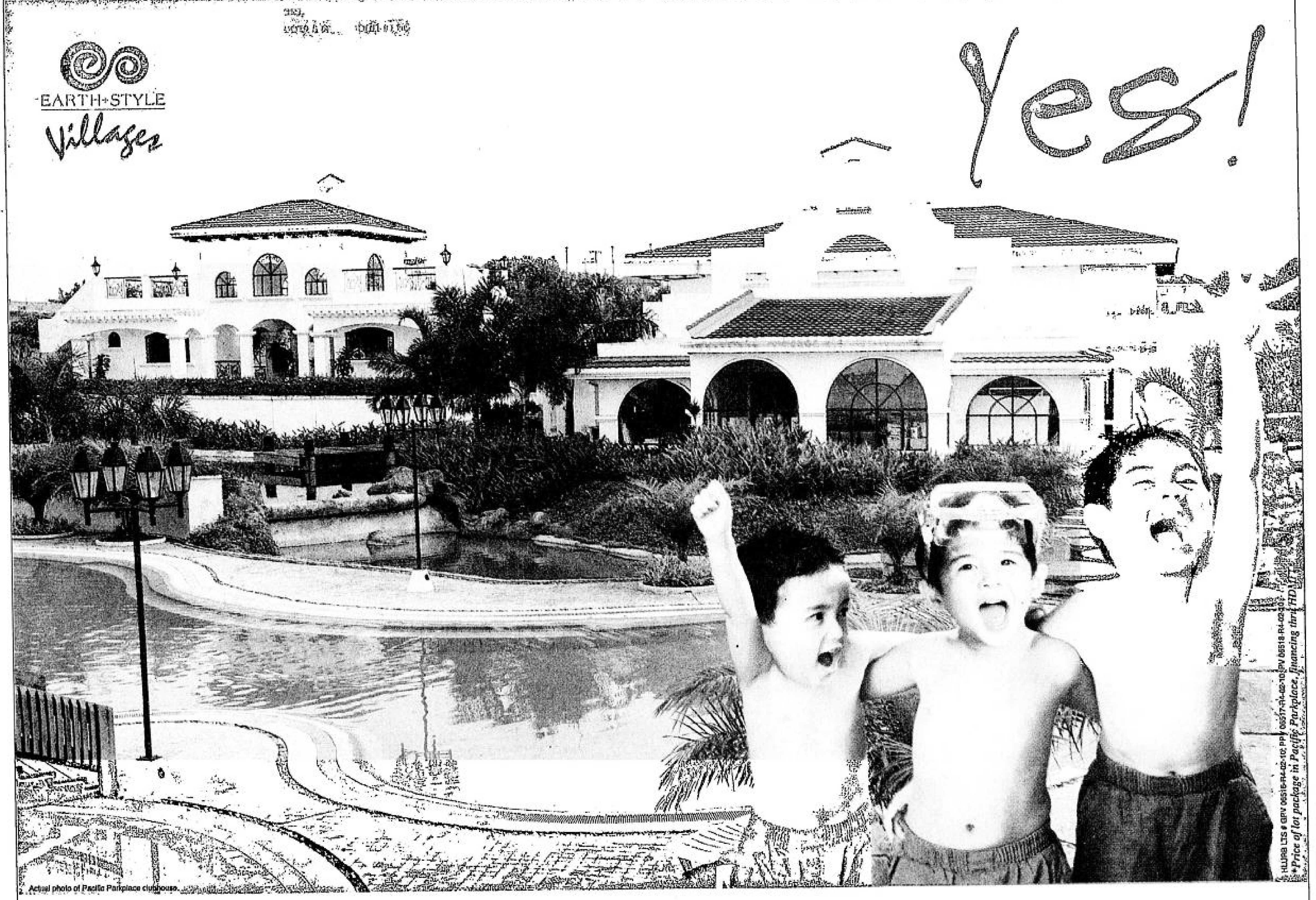
"We thank the President for heeding the call for a takeover because this is meant to protect the consumers," said Paras. "(Meralco) should have been honest. But it made a mistake (of overcharging consumers)," he said.

Dilangalen said there was enough justification for a takeover, including Meralco's statement that it would go bankrupt if forced to refund P28 billion.

"They also said there will be 10-hour brownouts and practically admitted that they are inefficient. So why should we allow them to operate the power utility?" he said.

Opposition Sen. Teresa Aquino-Oreta accused Malacañang of duplicity and said the President was capitalizing on Meralco's woes to guarantee the support of the Lopezes and their media empire for her run in the 2004 election.

"That Camacho faxed the (proposal) to (Gabby) Lopez three days before the Nov. 15 decision of the Supreme Court is doubly disturbing because it suggests a leakage," Oreta said. *With reports from Juliet L. Javellana, Volt Contreras, Ronnel W. Domingo and Cynthia D. Balana*



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Miss World final flees to London

From page A1

Abuja, did not elaborate further on reasons for the change. It was signed by Guy Murray-Bruce, the pageant's top official in Nigeria.

No government officials were immediately available for comment.

The bloodshed was worst in the northern city of Kaduna, where it started Wednesday, but on Friday it spread to Abuja, the capital, where the beauty contest was to be held.

Red Cross officials said about 100 people had been killed and 500 injured in three days. More than 2,000 people died in similar riots in 2000.

Fueling the clashes are longstanding hostilities between the various tribes of Muslims and Christians in Africa's most populous nation, where rioting and fighting between the groups is commonplace. Previous riots in Kaduna have escalated into religious battles that have killed hundreds since civilian government replaced military rule in 1999.

Islamic groups have complained for months that the beauty pageant promotes promiscuity.

Offensive article

The situation worsened after This Day newspaper in Kaduna published an article last Saturday suggesting that Islam's prophet would have approved of the pageant.

"What would Muhammad think? In all honesty, he would probably have chosen a wife from among them," Isioma Daniel wrote.

After Muslims called the article offensive, the newspaper published a brief front-page apology Monday, and a lengthier retraction Thursday that said the passage had run by mistake.

Muslims gathered after prayers outside the national mosque in the usually placid capital 362 kilometers (225 miles) northeast of here and then stormed through town, burning cars and assaulting bystanders they believed to be Christian outside plush international hotels.

Police firing tear gas restored calm in Abuja within hours. But the melee in Kaduna, a religiously mixed city of several million people, continued in defiance of a round-the-clock police curfew.

Bands of Muslims, some armed with ceremonial daggers, stabbed and set fire to passers-by. Young men shouting "Allahu Akhbar," or "God is great," ignited makeshift barricades of tires and garbage. Christian youths smashed windows and burned mosques.

Plumes of smoke rose over Kaduna Friday as both sides burned and demolished homes in the segregated ethnic neighborhoods across this bustling market city. In one Christian minority district, an old woman sifted through the smoking ruins of her house to retrieve pots and pans.

Stones vs guns

Nearby, Tunde Adeyemi, a 25-year-old Christian, related how he and friends fought off Muslims. "We had only stones. They were shooting us, and we were stoning them," he said.

But Joe Adamu, a Muslim tailor, said Christians were armed with automatic weapons, while the Muslims had only stones and knives.

Five churches and an undetermined number of mosques had been burned by Friday. Red Cross workers retrieved charred bodies for burial.

Through the violence, the Miss World contestants remained under Nigerian police and army guard in the Nicon Hilton in Abuja, the nation's fanciest hotel. President Olusegun Obasanjo said their security would be tightened.

Muslim opposition had already prompted organizers to postpone the finale until after the Islamic holy month of Ramadan.

Pageant publicist Stella Din said that she was saddened by the deaths but insisted they were not the pageant's fault.

Obasanjo agreed, saying: "The beauty queens should not feel that they are the cause of the violence. It could happen at any time irresponsible journalism is committed against Islam."

The US state department appealed for an end to the violence. "We have welcomed assurances by the government for the safety of the Miss World contestants," spokesperson Philip Reeker said.

Some Kaduna residents sought protection at police stations and military bases. But others accused police and soldiers of gunning down rioters. Shehu Sani of the Kaduna-based Civil Rights Congress said he was shown the bodies of 10 Muslim men who witnesses said were shot by police near a mosque Friday.

Authorities did not immediately comment.

Bello Yawa, a 50-year-old Muslim, clutched his face and wept when he saw the body of his adult son lying on a street corner.

"This morning I closed the gates to my house. The army and police came and forced their way in. They took my two sons and brought them outside, and they didn't return," he said. "I don't know why ... even policemen have turned against us. They are not supposed to take sides."

Gunshots continued into the evening. Witnesses said fighting continued in at least one neighborhood, as flames consumed small dwellings. Fearing violence could spread, security forces patrolled other major cities Friday.

It's Ramadan, too

Aside from the violence, media coverage has also focused on controversy over the death sentences slapped on two unmarried mothers by Nigerian Islamic courts.

Nigerian Muslims were incensed that the event, already an affront to their conservative ideas about feminine modesty, would be held during the Muslim holy month of Ramadan.

"Why should fortune-seeking individuals impose on us something we don't approve of?" said Isayaku Hamza, 37, a schoolteacher from the riot-torn Kaduna suburb of Kabalan Doki.

At first the protests were confined to angry statements by Islamic leaders and religious scholars, but temperatures rose after some 90 women contestants arrived in Abuja this month.

The final straw was last week's This Day article.

Many Muslims were deeply offended, and on Wednesday youths in the northern city of Kaduna sacked and burned a local office of the offending newspaper.

On Thursday the fighting degenerated into a vicious round of sectarian bloodletting, as rival gangs of Muslims and Christians burned places of worship and attacked each other.

By Friday the streets of Kaduna were scattered with bodies and outbreaks of violence were reported elsewhere, including Abuja.

Before the arrival of the contestants, the biggest threat to the success of the event appeared to come from a boycott organized to protest against the death sentence imposed on one Amina Lawal.

In May this year, the 31-year-old village housewife was sentenced to be stoned to death by an Islamic court in the northern state of Katsina for bearing a child out of wedlock.

AP, AFP, Reuters

Remote mountain school goes hi-tech

From page A1

Project director Ibarra Gonzalez said about 50 percent of the 1,000 schools do not have electricity and belong to the country's fourth to sixth-class municipalities.

"We thought you would not come back," said Filipinas Ginete, as the project's staff members installed the equipment in her house located in front of the school.

"I know it's hard to get here. We thought you had given up," she added.

Ginete, Galalan Elementary School's only teacher, handles two multi-grade classes: 30 students in Grades 1 to 3 and 28 students in Grades 4 to 6.

The members of the project's staff visited the site in May to inform the local government and school that Galalan had been chosen as a recipient of some helpful technology for education. After that meeting, Galalan, a barangay of around 500 families, pressed the local government for electricity.

Of Ginete's 58 students, only seven owned television sets, which were operated on car batteries before power lines were installed.

Most of the students were awed and fascinated by the huge TV screen and VCD player that Eskwela ng Bayan had donated.

Gonzalez said the equipment were donations from private individuals and companies that wanted to help the Eskwela ng Bayan project, which is part of the government's poverty alleviation program.

Inspired by Corpus

Eskwela ng Bayan was inspired by Col. Victor Corpus, chief of the Intelligence Service of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, who saw education as a means of improving the country's peace and order situation. Former Presidential Management Staff chief Vicky Garchitorena conceptualized the project.

Galalan will likely be a test case for Corpus' theory. Talks persist that it hosts "many members of the National People's Army whom the community could not identify," said barangay councilwoman May Domingo.

Michelle Mejarito, a fifth grader at Galalan, and her siblings, PJ and Dolores, who are in Grades 2 and 1, respectively, used to live five kilometers from the Galalan school (nine kilometers to town).

Every day they would walk for at least an hour to get to school. But because of a recent episode where seven men wearing bonnets stopped some boys on their way home to ask for food, Mejarito said they have since been living with their aunt who resides near the school.

Ginete, on the other hand, had built two huts for some students who live in Giis, which is five kilometers from the school.

Gonzalez tapped Get the Picture Productions Inc., which is behind the successful kiddie shows "Batibot," "Sineskwela," "Hiraya Manawari" and "Bayani," to create educational shows following the DepEd's basic elementary education curriculum.

Malacañang has allocated P28 million for the production of the modules, which will be distributed to the 1,000 schools. The modules could also be reproduced by the DepEd for other public schools.

Modules

Fifteen-minute stand-alone modules were made on different subjects.

"Alikabuk" is about Lola Priming, an elementary school teacher who runs a bookstore in the province, and her grandson, Jomel. Together they take the audience through a journey on Filipino literacy through the books that they read.

"Solved!" is a step-by-step guide to solving Math problems with the help of Tinay, Loloy and Bubut, who live in a small, underdeveloped town where they face challenges that could be overcome only after solving a Math problem.

"Why?" is a module on science and the environment. Ate Ida, a nature lover, explores the world and explains how things work and why they are important to everyday life.

"Karen's World" features Inggo, an elementary student who learns English from his smart carabao Karen, who loves to read and encourages Inggo to do likewise.

The four shows run at 10-11 a.m., Monday to Thursday on NBN-4, the government television station.

The Eskwela ng Bayan staff has also gone to Batangas and Bulacan for the installation of similar equipment in schools there.

Sorting out sex and the clergy

From page A1

the international media.

The results confirmed what has been considered common. They were not unexpected when seen in the context of the recent revelations on sexual misdeeds that racked churches, both Catholic and non-Catholic, worldwide.

The research committee presented its findings to the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines (CBCP) representatives several months ago. The committee members had earlier said that they would first present their findings to the CBCP before these would be revealed to other groups. Although the research was not CBCP-funded, the CBCP had been informed about it.

The findings have also been presented to rank-and-file nuns most of whom are involved in women and gender issues.

Facts and figures

According to research committee members Sisters Leonila Bermisa of the Maryknoll Sisters and Esperanza Principio of the Religious of the Virgin Mary, the research committee of four has so far documented 29 cases of sexual violence and misconduct among priests. The other committee members are Sr. Ethne Hughes and Violeta Mendoza.

'Tip of the iceberg'

The bishops who received their report were CBCP president Bishop Orlando Quevedo, Archbishop Gaudencio Rosales, Bishop Chito Bernardo and Bishop Carlito Cenzon. "They received the report casually," Principio said, adding that the bishops promised to act on the report.

Bermisa, who did special studies in Feminist Theologies at Yale University, said their findings are just "the tip of the iceberg." Principio has a master's degree in Applied Research from Ateneo University. Documentation of cases is continuing.

The initial findings:

- Of 29 documented cases, 37.9 percent could be classified as rape as defined under Philippine law; 48.3 percent fall under sexual harassment.
- 71.4 percent were committed against women; the rest, against men.
- 13.8 percent of the documented cases could be classified as ephobilia or sexual abuse against male minors.

Aside from the cases gathered through interviews with victims, the research committee also learned of cases through phone text messages.

Ten victims sent messages from the Philippines and the US on sexual misconduct of priests. The majority of the texters wanted to remain anonymous for security reasons and to protect their families from scandal.

Although the committee invited the Inquirer during the presentation of findings to a group of women religious, it did not allow the publication of the details of the cases to prevent the possibility of identifying the victims.

The Inquirer had hoped to be allowed to cite a few sample cases but in the end, the committee decided "not to share cases for publication" but they assured the Inquirer that summaries and recommendations which may be "beneficial to readers" could be published.

Summary

The committee summed up their findings thus:

- Victims of sexual abuse by priests and church leaders were generally materially poor. They are those in need of educational assistance, cooks, catechists, parish workers, sacristans, working students, counselees and the "vulnerable" such as those seeking guidance and even making confessions.
- Many bishops maintain a "culture of secrecy and tolerance" while perpetrators are sent to another diocese or abroad for further studies in order for them to escape responsibilities, avoid facing criminal charges and scandal.
- First-time offenders are simply given a chance to change and transferred to another parish.
- First-time offenders, when not checked on, tend to commit the same acts in their new assignments.
- Sexual acts, consensual or not, could range from 15 to 35 percent in dioceses and this could be a conservative estimate.
- Young altar boys are easy victims of pedophilia.

The report added that the claim of psychologist Fr. Stephen Rossetti that 1.6 to 2 percent of priests have been sexually involved with minors at some point in their ministry, has some basis. Rossetti counsels priests accused of sexual abuse.

A high number of documented cases in diocese or prelature X does not mean the place leads the list; this could say a lot about other places too, where victims choose to keep quiet.

The committee also received reports such as:

- Young nuns from a diocesan congregation (that is, founded by the local bishop and has not acquired pontifical status yet) has been sexually harassed by their founder. These nuns were forced to leave because their complaints were not heeded by their leaders who, fearing their founder, covered up the issue by offering them positions.
- Two bishops who had been accused of committing homosexual acts are now retired bishops emeritus. Another bishop who is allegedly homosexual has also been accused of sexual abuse.

The committee is doing follow-up work on the above cases.

Gov't . . .

From page A1

said yesterday.

She made the announcement only two days after the Department of Finance confirmed that this year's budget deficit had ballooned to P223 billion. With government employees numbering at least 1.2 million, the cash gift would amount to at least P6 billion.

The President said in her radio message that the grant of the cash gift—to be released before Dec. 15—was her way of thanking government employees, soldiers and policemen for their dedicated service.

She admitted that the government's finances were tight, but said the budget department had consolidated the government's remaining cash resources to allow the extra bonus.

"This cash gift is my and the republic's small token to all government employees," she said. "This will be given to all government employees, even those who did not get it before, including teachers, soldiers and police officers."

Budget Secretary Emilia Boncodin said a few weeks ago that state workers would get an extra bonus of not less than P5,000. She said she had ascertained that all departments had savings to fund the bonus.

Boncodin also said that before ordering the grant of the cash gift, she made sure that all employees would receive the same amount.

In the past, state workers received varying amounts depending on the savings of their respective departments.

Last year, for example, public school teachers numbering at least half a million received only P1,000—the smallest bonus of the lot. But some departments gave their workers as much as P20,000.

Dona Z. Pazzibugan

Ayala group gains control of The Fort

From page A1

gain price—control of a project that it lost in a bitter corporate dispute in 1995 to Metro Pacific Corp., Philippine property flagship of Hong Kong's First Pacific Co. Ltd.

"We took an interest in this property as early as 1995, and we continue to see opportunities related to it. We envision Fort Bonifacio as a natural and complementary extension of the Makati central business district," Ayala Land president Francisco Licuanan III said in a statement yesterday.

In a memorandum of agreement, Ayala Land and Greenfield Development Corp., a company controlled by United Laboratories Inc. chair Joselito Campos, acquired a 50.4-percent stake in Bonifacio Land Corp. from Metro Pacific.

With a 22.5-percent stake, Metro Pacific will still be the second-biggest shareholder in Bonifacio Land, which is developing the 150-hectare former Army base in Metro Manila into a prime residential and business district called the Fort Bonifacio Global City. Metro Pacific used to own 72.9 percent of Bonifacio Land.

Bonifacio Land owns 55 percent of Fort Bonifacio Development Corp., a company it co-owns with the government.

"Adding Fort Bonifacio to our portfolio will provide a great opportunity for Ayala Land," said Fernando Zobel de Ayala, the company's chair.

Under the deal, a joint venture formed by the Ayala-Campos group will repay $90 million of Metro Pacific's debts to Larouge BV, another subsidiary of First Pacific.

As part of the deal, Metro Pacific will turn over P655 million in Bonifacio Land debt notes to Ayala Land and Greenfield.

The transaction is expected to be completed in January. An independent committee tasked by First Pacific to review the deal will report its recommendations to the board at its next meeting in the second week of December.

Securing future of Boni

As the deal will cover only Larouge's principal loan of $90 million—with interests, the loan has already grown to about $105 million—Metro Pacific will seek a restructuring of about $23 million in accrued interest owed to Larouge, Metro Pacific vice president David Nugent said in a news briefing.

"This deal will secure the future of Fort Bonifacio with the entry of a strong partner and, at the same time, accelerate the debt reduction program of Metro Pacific," Nugent said.

Nugent said with this transaction, Metro Pacific's debts would be reduced to only P4.1 billion from P18 billion recorded as of end-2001.

In addition to the $90 million that will be used to repay its debt, Metro Pacific will also get P3.8 billion worth of properties for its advances to develop the project. It will be left with about 10.4 hectares in an area known as the "northern central business district" in addition to the upscale Pacific Plaza Towers.

"We intend to hold on to the remaining 22.5 percent. Our intention is to be an active minority in the project," Nugent said, adding Metro Pacific would still be able to nominate three out of the 15 board seats at Bonifacio Land.

Good deal

Metro Pacific, however, would no longer be able to hold a seat in FBDC, as the Ayala-Campos group would now be the government's new strategic partner in the development of the Fort Bonifacio Global City.

Analysts said Ayala Land—a unit of the country's largest conglomerate, Ayala Corp.—got a good deal on the Fort Bonifacio stake.

"This price is a bargain price, with Ayala buying semi-developed land for the same price Metro Pacific paid for the raw land in 1995," ATR Kim Eng research head Andrew Long said.

The Ayala and Campos groups bought into the Fort Bonifacio project at a time when property prices in the area had fallen steeply because of the 1997-98 Asian financial crisis.

"It is a good time to be buying properties such as Fort Bonifacio, since such assets can be acquired at fairly good valuations. When the real estate market recovers, we'll be in a solid position to capitalize on opportunities, having established our strategic position in two of the most sought-after business and residential areas in the country, namely Makati CBD and the Fort Bonifacio Global City," Ayala Land's Licuanan said.

Dominant position

"I view it as positive for Ayala Land," said a research head at a foreign securities firm, who declined to be identified. "They can treat it as one big property."

The Ayala-Campos group said the deal would enhance the Ayala group's dominant position in the real estate industry.

"Adding Fort Bonifacio to our portfolio will provide a great opportunity for Ayala Land to replicate its success in the development of the Makati central business district as the country's commercial and financial center. We are also delighted at this opportunity to continue our close relationship with the Campos group," it said.

Ayala Land and Campos' Greenfield have an existing joint venture project in Calamba, Laguna—the 600-hectare Ayala Greenfield Estates.

"We have been privileged to consummate the acquisition from First Pacific of Darya Varia, one of the biggest pharmaceutical companies in Indonesia. And now, together with Ayala Land, we look forward to our joint development of Bonifacio Global City as a prime landmark project," Campos said.

The foundations of Fort Bonifacio Global City can accommodate three times the existing density of the Makati commercial business district.

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2002

Sunday SPORTS

E-mail: pr_sports@inquirer.com.ph

Editor Al S. Mendoza ● Assistant Editor Edwin M. Villanueva

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PCA OPEN NETFEST

Mae marches to finals

MATCHES TODAY *(Center court)*
10 a.m.--Arevalo vs Lee
1 p.m.--Victorino vs Abadia

By Marc Anthony Reyes

SHE'S not just dimples and smiles.

Czarina Mae Arevalo proved that yesterday when she unleashed the fury underneath her good looks in slamming her hapless Korean foe to march to the PCA Open women's final at the Philippine Columbian Association indoor courts.

With her groundstrokes seemingly packed with rage, Arevalo beat Kim Soo-Jin, 6-2, 6-0, in just 40 minutes to make her second straight final appearance in the Accel-Dunlop tournament.

She will take on Lee Min-Hee today at 10 a.m. for the title after the Korean outlasted RP No. 2 Patricia Santos, 4-6, 6-3, 6-3, in the other semis.

Even Arevalo, already the country's No. 1 female netter at 17, was surprised by the way Jin played.

"I was very surprised by her game," said Arevalo, a fourth-year high school student at the Angelicum in Quezon City. "I've seen her in the circuit and I know that she's really good. I think she got nervous."

It proved true because the 16-year-old Jin just couldn't get her game going, committing too many unforced errors to make things easier for Arevalo.

Arevalo, who lost the title to India's Sonal Phadke last year, said Jin's downfall could be beneficial to her because between the two Koreans, it was Jin who plays smarter and quicker.

But Kim won't be an easy assignment as she flashed a lot more energy than Santos, who was hampered by cramps in her right arm and legs during the match that lasted 1 hour 45 minutes.

"I can withstand my legs but it was my arm that was killing me," said the 22-year-old Santos who is on a comeback trail after leaving competitive tennis to finish her studies.

"I tried to hold on for sometime because I don't want to lose by retirement," said Santos, who started feeling the cramps as early as the second set.

Meanwhile, at the Philam Homes Tennis Club, top seed Akio Sy edged Alberto Villamor, 6-2, 7-6 (3), while Juan Gabriel Peña dumped Paul John Barredo, 6-1, 6-1, to advance in the unisex 10-under division of the Adidas Tennis Challenge.

Kevin Mamawal bested Mark Santos, 6-4, 6-0, while Chynna Mamawal ousted Michael dela Peña, 6-1, 6-1, to also climb to the next round of the event sponsored by Milo and Sports Kids and organized by the Children's Tennis Workshop.

AREVALO: Dispatches Korean to face another Korean for the crown.
ERNIE U. SARMIENTO

Jordan at Solar today

MICHAEL Jordan and the Washington Wizards travel out West to take on the Memphis Grizzlies and last year's NBA Rookie of the Year Pau Gasol, at 9 a.m. today on the Solar Sports Network (Channel 29 on Skycable and Homecable), with a replay at 7 p.m. Playing as a sixth man for the first time in his career, Jordan has averaged 16.7 points in just 27.6 minutes a game. He has blended well with Jerry Stackhouse (23.9 points/game) to lead the once-woeful Wizards to a respectable six wins in eleven games to start the season. The 39-year-old Jordan had a season-high 27 points against Seattle last week, but only eight against Houston yesterday.

Kobe, Shaq star for Lakers' win

KOBE Bryant had 21 points, 10 rebounds and seven assists yesterday to steer the Los Angeles Lakers past the Chicago Bulls, 86-73.

Shaq O'Neal, who missed the first 12 games of the season for the Lakers, nine of them losses, came off the bench to score 17 points and pull down seven rebounds in just 21 minutes on 8-of-13 shooting.

He had been nursing his injured toe since the off-season and was greeted with a prolonged ovation when he made his return to the court for the first time six minutes into the game.

Derek Fisher added 16 points and six rebounds for Los Angeles, now 4-9.

Donyell Marshall had 14 points and 14 rebounds for the Bulls, also 4-9. Tyson Chandler added 12 points and eight rebounds for Chicago, which trailed by just one at the half.

Complete Results

Indiana 106, Orlando 70; Boston 105, Atlanta 98 (2OTs); New Jersey 120, Cleveland 79; Detroit 75, Miami 72; Philadelphia 90, Toronto 80; Houston 93, Washington 86; San Antonio 95, Memphis 86; New Orleans 105, New York 97 (OT); Sacramento 118, Phoenix 101; Denver 72, LA Clippers 70; Milwaukee 95, Golden State 91.

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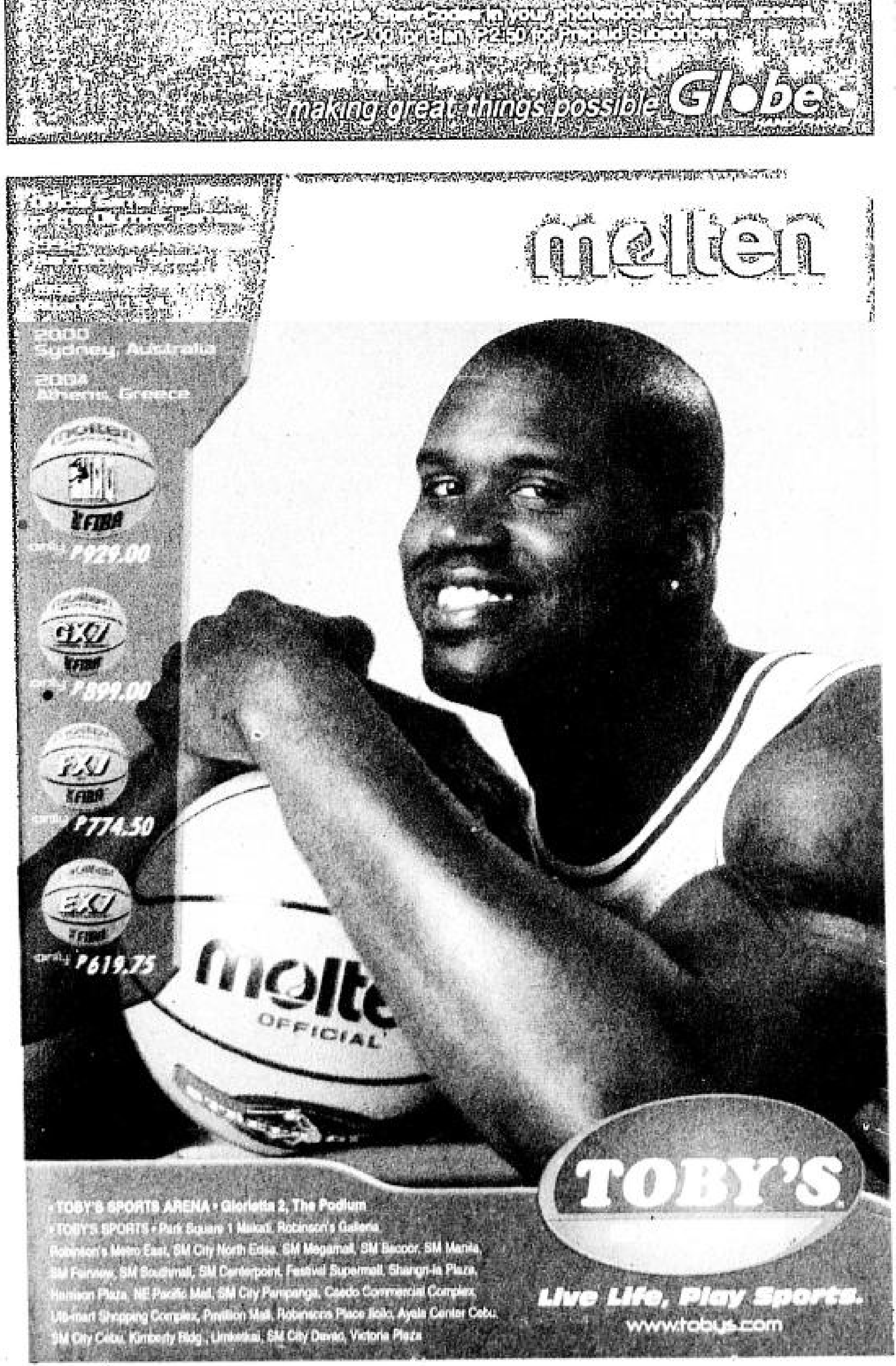

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SPORTSWATCH

GOLF

Woods 8 shots off

MIYAZAKI, Japan—Tiger Woods again struggled with his putting game Saturday and settled for a 2-under par 69 in the third round of the US$1.65 million Dunlop Phoenix. Woods, who fired a 68 on Friday, carded four birdies against a pair of bogeys at the Dunlop Phoenix Country Club to finish at 5-under 208, eight strokes behind leader Kaname Yokoo of Japan, who fired a 69 to go to 13-under. Yokoo, a regular on the U.S. PGA tour, rolled in three birdies against a lone bogey for a one-stroke lead over Northern Ireland's Darren Clarke, who carded a 65. In West Palm Beach, Florida, the LPGA Tour season comes to an end this week, and Annika Sorenstam is still going strong. Despite another three-putt bogey, Sorenstam continued her otherwise flawless play Friday with a 2-under 70 that gave her a one-stroke lead in the ADT Championship, putting her in good position to capture her 11th title of the year.

BOXING

RPN 9 features Fistorama

FISTORAMA today features light-flyweights Glen Donaire and Ben Albanez in eight rounds over RPN 9 starting at 12 noon. Other fights: Alex Tapas vs Rey Amon, Danny Peña vs Carlo Agrabio. The popular weekly boxing show is produced by Joe Cantada Sports and spotlights top sportscasters Ed Picson and Quinito Henson and legendary boxing analyst Taby Tabaniag.

SKATING

'Extreme' shoes here

PRACTITIONERS of extreme sports like skating, BMX and mountain bikers and surfers have picked Vans footwear as the best for them. This according to Cory Nastazio and Rick Thorne, "dirt champions" of the world. Founded by Paul Van Doren in 1966, Vans has models named after great skaters Omar Hassan and Dustin Dollin. They are now available at Royal Sporting House outlets, and Vans shops at SM Megamall and North Edsa through RSH Marketing Phils.

RACING TIPS

AT SAN LAZARO BY MR. 999

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Race 2--1. Two Thumbs Up 2. Express Lane 3. Royal Harvest
Race 3--1. Gifted Guest 2. Fast Eddie 3. Gemstone 4. Endway 5. Going Free
Race 4--1. Shape of the Wind 2. Lucky El 3. Lady Victoria 4. Mr. Positive 5. Scream for Chance
Race 5--1. Master Sherwin 2. Tervalac 3. Festive Charm 4. Colonial Affair 5. Close Account 6. Kusang Loob
Race 6--1. Real Material 2. Ikaw Pag Asa Ko 3. Dragon Doding 4. Bull Strike
Race 7--1. Mystika 2. The Mailman 3. Manila Mauler 4. Primero de Mayo 5. Trick Shot
Race 8--1. The Fox 2. District Three 3. Bull Rider
Race 9--1. Thunder Speed 2. Kiss Me Quick 3. Manila Miss 4. Hummingbird 5. G Square
Race 10--1. Speed Machine 2. Gifted Angel 3. Clarize 4. Exchange Deal
Race 11--1. The Dominator 2. Namaste 3. Secret Lover 4. Inner Wheeler 5. Music Express
Race 12--1. Night Flight 2. Aim for Gold 3. King Philip 4. Charming Belle 5. Ceasar's Inn 6. Storm Dancer
Race 13--1. Are You Happy 2. Windlass 3. Secret Quest 4. Queen Storm 5. Notable
Race 14--1. Pabuya 2. Tender Value 3. Privately Owned 4. Gentleman's Copy 5. Madam Aida 6. Lucky Gambit

Makati Golf Club opens tomorrow

AFTER a successful series of test runs, the Makati Golf Club, the country's first ever fully-automated driving range, will start operations tomorrow, Monday, as a prelude to its soft opening on Dec. 4.

The four-storey facility at 7232 Malugay St., Barangay Bel-Air, Makati also houses the country's first-ever Golf Mall with concept stores carrying the biggest brands in the world market like Mizuno, Callaway, Wilson, KZG, Taylor Made and S-Yard, the Custom Club Makers shop and many more.

Operating hours for the range will be from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily. The teaching force is led by George Walker, Ruby Chico, Jun Cedo and Jorge Abad.

All the equipment distributors are also offering demos for their newly-launched clubs on particular days every week.

The Makati Golf Club is fast becoming the new sports hang-out in Makati with its state-of-the-art technology, including locker rooms and free parking.

It is managed by Club Management Corporation, the same outfit handling the multi-awarded Sta. Elena Golf Club with GG&A Club Share as the official marketing arm. GG&A has also entered into an agreement with Standard Chartered for a deferred payment scheme for share buyers.

Inquiries on the Makati Golf Club shares can be coursed through GG&A Club Shares at 840-1761.

Alta Vista's 'simple march'

THE MIGHTY Alta Vista squad of Cebu will fly to Luzon more than a week from now with an imposing overall lead and will simply treat the third and final leg of the 2002 Sta. Lucia Tour as its "simple march" to victory.

The Sta. Lucia Tour is backed by Unirock Corp., Taylor Made and Readycon as major sponsors. Minor backers are Gainers Marketing, Kubota, Omega, Kodak, Philippine Airlines, Cebu Pacific while Yamaha is the hole-in-one prize provider while Hyatt (Manila), Marco Polo (Davao) and Cebu Plaza are the official hotels.

Riding high on their overpowering display of force in the first two legs, Alta Vista's bets have 75 points so far and will be carrying a 31-point advantage over Rancho Palos Verdes in the culmination of the nationwide series on Dec. 6-7.

Eagle Ridge, which is fast loading its grip on the Sta. Lucia Cup it had won the past two years, is third with 43 while Orchard and Royale Tagaytay are tied for fourth spot with similar 30s.

Paragua still on course in Greece

FILIPINO pride Mark Paragua defeated Spaniard Ivan Mendez Gonzales in the ninth round Friday and stayed in the title hunt of the boys' 18 and under World Youth Chess Championships 2002 in Heraklio, Crete, Greece.

With 6.5 points, Paragua must hurdle Indian GM Pentala Harikrisna (7 points) in the penultimate 10th round and hope that Hungarian pacesetter GM Ferenc Berkes (7.5 points) lose to Armenian Tigran Petrosyan (7 points) to bolster his drive for the crown and the grandmaster title.

Mapua Institute of Technology bet National Master Roderick Nava bowed to Mathieu Acher in the same division and stayed at 4.5 points.

University of the East's Aices Salvador won over Casey Hickman in the girls' 12 and under, but was too far behind at 4 points.

Another Filipino who faltered was Letran's Vic Neil Villanueva, who yielded to Li Wu for and remained at 4.5 points in the boys' 14 and under. *Roy Luarca*

Lazaro race benefits Amerasians

COMING in the heels of the highly successful "Race for Life" project, Manila Jockey Club, Inc. is once again at the forefront of another charitable endeavor as it spearheads the staging of "Filipino-American Thanksgiving Race" today at San Lazaro.

"We are honored to be part of this charitable project," said MJCI President and Chief Executive Alfonso Reyno Jr.

President Robert Robbins expressed gratitude to the MJCI for providing their association with a unique venue to promote the principal objectives of the foundation.

"We are appreciative of MJCI's gesture to include the welfare of the Amerasian children among its many socio-civic concerns and are hopeful that we could further strengthen such a partnership in the future," said Robbins.

Co-presented by the Philippine American Guardian Association, the event is for the benefit of indigent Amerasian children living in the country in time for the traditional Thanksgiving holiday on Nov. 28 as celebrated by Americans throughout the world.

Montaña shocks Welcoat

GAMES TODAY *(Pasig Sports Center)*
2 p.m.--LBC vs Cheeseball-Shark
4 p.m.--Sunkist vs John-O

By Dennis U. Eroa

TARLAC CITY–Sunday Salvacion converted the crucial baskets as title-hungry Montaña stopped Welcoat, 87-84, in overtime yesterday to seize the lead in the PBL Challenge Cup at the Tarlac State University Gym here.

The 6-foot-3 Salvacion, a star out of the College of St.Benilde, thrilled the fans with his markmanship in the second half and the extra period as the Jewels improved their record to 4-1, while handing the Paintmasters their first loss after three straight victories.

PBL Chair Dioceldo Sy, Commissioner Chino Trinidad, Deputy Commissioner Tommy Ong and Tarlac City Mayor Aro Mendoza joined the huge crowd in watching the Jewels' big win over the Paintmasters, whose downfall was hastened by 30 turnovers.

" My men never surrendered. We did it the hard way," said Montaña coach Ronnie Dojillo.

Salvacion, who finished with 25 points, 20 of which came in the second half, got able support from the high-leaping Jenkins Mesina, Egay Echavez and 6-foot-6 Billy Mamaril.

Mamaril, son of former Ginebra beanpole Romulo, hold his ground against Rommel Adducul, while Mesina, Echavez and Gary David relentlessly pounded Welcoat's defense with their daredevil drives.

Blu routed Dazz, 90-78, in the second game to tie Montana at 4-1. Dazz dropped to 1-3.

SPORTSTV Compiled by Lorenzo Manguiat

BASEKTBALL: NBA - Washington vs Memphis, 9:30 a.m., Solar Sports
POOL: World Pool Masters 2002, 12 noon and 7 p.m. (r), ESPN
Rack 'Em Up, 3 p.m. (r), ESPN
World Pool Trick Shot Masters 2002, 9 p.m. (r), ESPN

Puyat advises team owners to police ranks

PUYAT

TWO-time FIBA (World Basketball Federation) president Gonzalo "Lito" Puyat II has appealed to club team owners and school authorities to police their ranks in lieu of reports of game-fixing scandals in the collegiate basketball level..

"There is a need for (PBA/PBL) team owners and school heads to monitor the activities of their players," Puyat said yesterday. "We have to keep the sport's image clean and its credibility intact considering that it is our national pastime."

Best remembered for initiating moves that led to the suspension of many top-rated pro cagers in the early 70s, Puyat pointed out that "as in the past, there are strong indications that gambling syndicates, especially in Chinatown, are deeply involved in these questionable activities."

The former local basketball president said it would also be good to seek the help of the NBI and other police agencies as well as league officials–and even the media–to address the problem, which has become more serious since even young collegians are openly approached.

UE, UV seek crown berths

GAMES TODAY *(Makati Coliseum)*
1 p.m.--UE vs UV
3 p.m.--UST vs FEU

TRADITIONAL rivals University of the East and University of Visayas clash at 1 p.m. today with the winner marching to the finals of the Champions League 2002 at the Makati Coliseum.

The UE Warriors and the UV Lancers were the dominant collegiate teams of the late '70s and early '80s, but have since parted ways.

The Lancers were able to keep their stranglehold in the Cebu leagues while the Warriors haven't won a major championship since 1985, when center Jerry Codinera, shooter Allan Caidic and defensive specialist Boyzie Zamar were playing together.

Zamar will still be at the UE bench today--as head coach--and he relishes the chance to pit strategies with Elmer Cabahug and Al Solis, both former Lancers and now head coach and deputy coach, respectively, of UV.

"Matagal na ang rivalry na 'to. Halos tatlong dekada na," said Zamar, citing that even in the 70s, the Warriors, starring Jimmy Manansala, and the Lancers, powered by the late Arnie Tuadles, have been meeting for the national inter-collegiate championships.

Roy Luarca

Scooter races today in Carmona

THE NINTH and penultimate leg of the 2002 Shell Advance Super Scooter Championships reel off today at the Carmona Racing Circuit, with Benjo Mendoza seeking a repeat of his last month's impressive victory in the centerpiece expert open category.

Mendoza, who dominated the eighth leg last Oct. 6, will pit riding skills anew against perennial rivals Ivan Santiago and Mark Anthony Barcial in this annual series organized by the E.L. Racing Tech in cooperation with Shell Advance.

The event is sanctioned by the National Motorcycle Sports and Safety Association.

For details, call E.L. Racing Tech at tel. 6602071.

Thunder secure semis berth

GAMES TODAY *(Araneta Coliseum)*
3:45 p.m.--San Miguel vs Coca-Cola
5:45 p.m.--Talk N Text vs Alaska

RED Bull has clinched a semifinals berth, but coach Yeng Guiao is not inclined to give the Thunder a break. He wants them to go all out in the Thunder's two remaining games in the Selecta All-Filipino Cup.

"I still feel that we can improve the other aspects of our game and we will use those two remaining matches to sharpen our game," said Guiao after Red Bull's 82-65 victory over Formula Shell last night at the Astrodome.

With a league-leading 6-win, 1-loss card, the Thunder are guaranteed a semis seat even if they conclude the elimination round with losses to Ginebra and also-ran FedEx.

Tournament rules stipulate that the top two teams after the eliminations getting automatic seeding to the semis, with the next four teams marching to the knockout quarterfinals.

Davonn Harp, Willie Miller and Mick Pennisi again made things easy for the Thunder, who'll figure in the All-Filipino semis for the first time since joining the PBA two years ago.

Miller fired eight of his team-high 14 points in the fourth quarter as the Thunder pulled away for good, 72-59, with five minutes to go.

Complementing Miller's efforts, Harp finished with 11 points and a season-high 10 assists while Pennisi added 13 rebounds and 11 points, all but one of which came in the second quarter when the Thunder climbed from four points down to take a 46-37 halftime spread.

Shell fell to 2-4 and must sweep its last three games to gain the quarterfinals.

Christian Calaguio scored a game-high 16 points for Shell, but was held to two markers in the second half as Thunder defenders clamped down on him.

Roy Luarca

Scores:

RED BULL 82--Miller 14, Pennisi 13, Valenzuela 11, Harp 11, Hizon 9, Mendoza 9, Tugade 6, Reyes 5, Villoria 2, Locsin 2, Se 0, Asaytono 0.

SHELL 65--Calaguio 16, Bacani 13, Bajar 9, Jackson 9, Dela Cruz 6, Hrabak 6, Singson 3, Wainwright 2, Del Rosario 1, Sison 0, Marzan 0.

Quarters: 21-25, 46-37, 62-57, 82-65.

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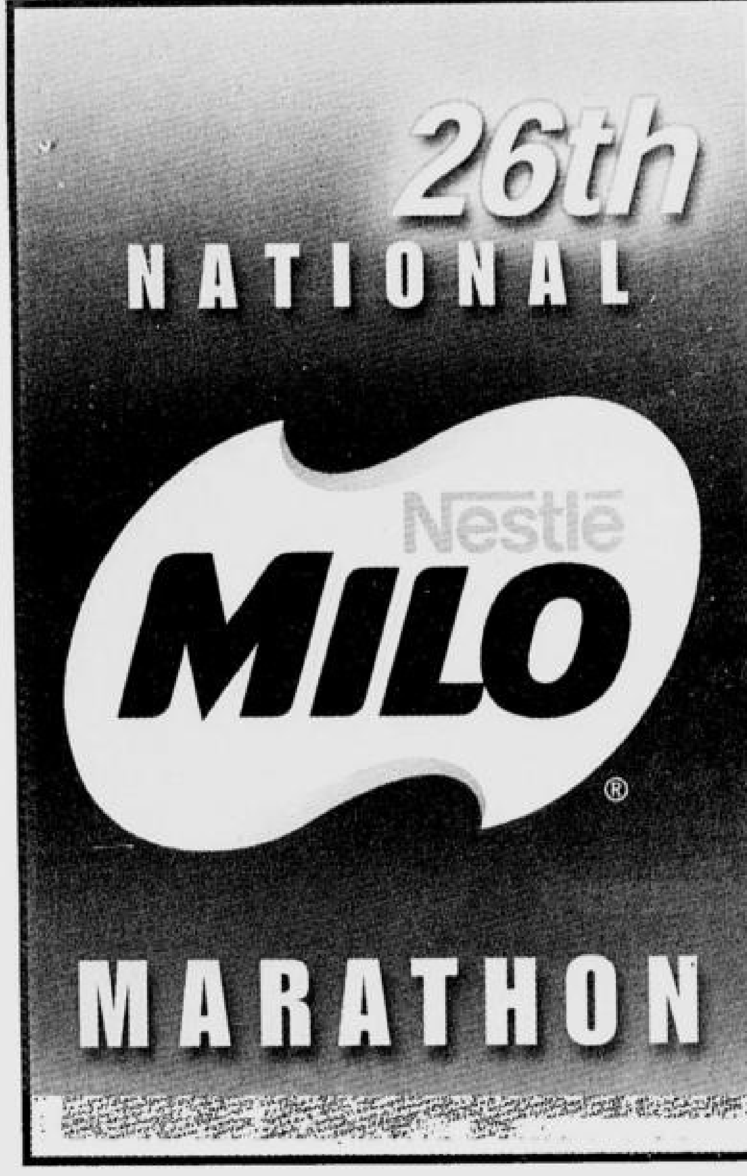
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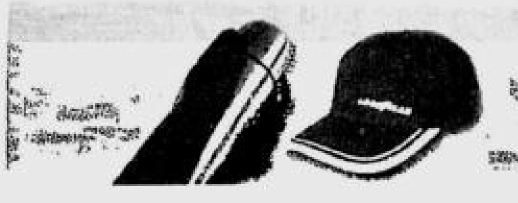
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Editor Louie C. Camino

■ MMDA wants new breed of traffic enforcers /A24

'NBI agents tried to extort P200,000'

By Jerome Aning and Alcuin Papa

AGENTS of the National Bureau of Investigation tried to extort P200,000 from a businessman they had arrested for estafa, according to ABS-CBN broadcaster Korina Sanchez.

In making this revelation, Sanchez yesterday told the INQUIRER that she had broken her promise to NBI director Reynaldo Wycoco that she wouldn't make a big deal of the incident on Friday involving her, some NBI agents and estafa suspect George Cadhit.

The broadcaster was reported to have made at scene at the NBI headquarters on Friday by banging on doors when NBI agents refused to let her enter the office and see Cadhit, who is said to be a relative of Paul Aquino, rumored boyfriend of Sanchez.

Sanchez yesterday said that Cadhit had told her that some NBI agents told him to "cough out about P200,000 before he would be released from the NBI."

SANCHEZ

She also said in an interview over radio station dzRH that this extort attempt and yesterday's reports on her tantrum at the NBI prompted her "to tell the truth" and break her agreement with Wycoco to let the incident pass.

"I promised General Wycoco that I wouldn't make a big deal (of the incident) but after reading the papers, I realized that some of the agents were trying to make me look bad so I have to tell the truth," she said in the radio interview.

She branded as "lies peddled by agents" reports of her tantrum, saying that the bureau has a reputation even if she quickly added that "not all NBI agents are bad."

The INQUIRER yesterday called Wycoco on his cell phone but could not reach him.

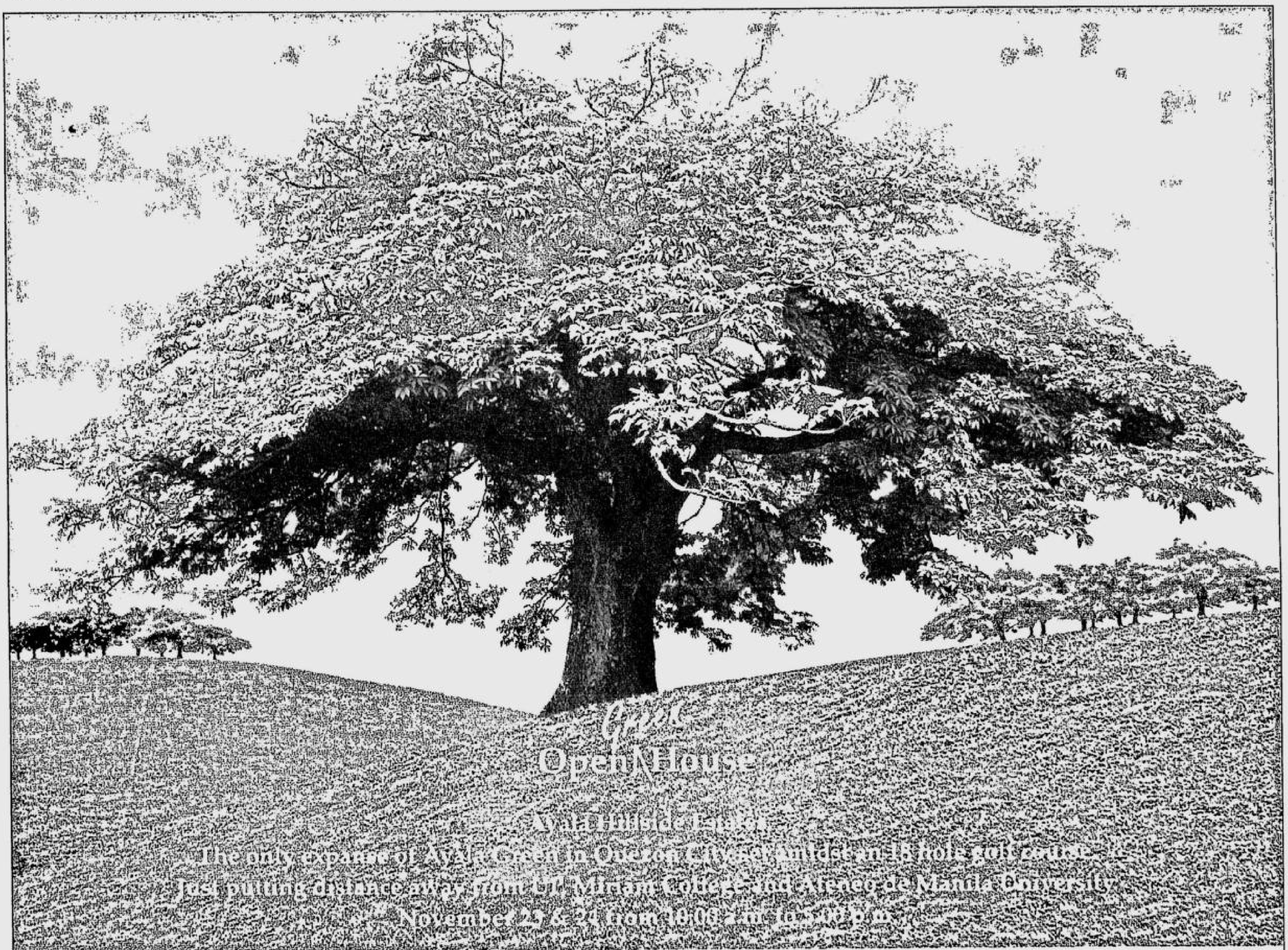
Sanchez said she does not know Cadhit well, but admitted that she frequents a restaurant at SM Megamall that Cadhit's son owns.

Cadhit, of McKinley Road in South Forbes Park, Makati was invited for questioning by NBI agents on Thursday after a businesswoman charged him with estafa for failing to pay for P658,000 worth of jewelry.

NBI agents probed Cadhit further after he allegedly dropped the name of First Gentleman Mike Arroyo in his deals.

He was released later after he and the complainant had reached an amicable settlement, according to an NBI investigator.

NBI/ A24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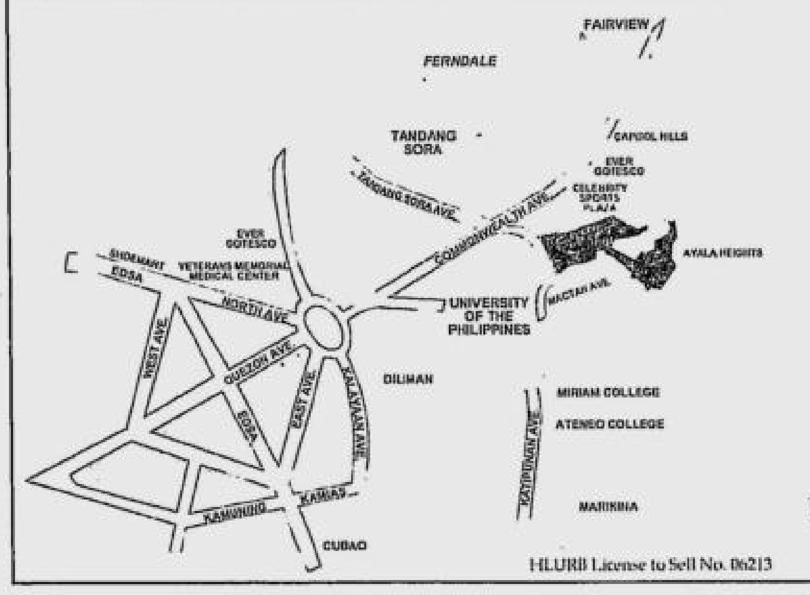
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Day care center brings children hope, happiness

By Leila B. Salaverria

WHAT was once a piece of land where garbage was piled sky high is now a place where hope soars and happiness reigns for the children of a depressed barangay in Makati City.

Bahay Bulilit, a day care center in Barangay East Rembo, has risen on the site, and on Wednesday was inaugurated to coincide with the world's celebration of "World's Children's Day."

The president's daughter, Lourdes "Luli" Arroyo, Social Welfare and Development Secretary Dinky Soliman, Makati City officials and McDonald's executives, who funded the construction of the day care center, witnessed the event.

The one-story structure with its red and yellow walls and red cabinets full of toys and learning materials echoes the happy mood of the fastfood chain that built it from sales of McDonald's Happy meals and proceeds from other fund-raising activities.

Residents see the day care center as the answer to their children's and their mothers' needs.

Jean Siscar, 32, a mother of two, also looks at the center as their own refuge.

"With our children in the center, we mothers would have the time to do things," she said. "We could take up livelihood projects that could be a source of income."

Siscar said mothers would have free time to participate in seminars on income-generating projects such as candle and Christmas decor making. She herself is preparing to embark on a chocolate-making business this December.

Bahay Bulilit offers assurance that the barangay's kids won't have to run wild in the streets or stay cooped up in their homes. It would also ensure the children's early education, skills training and values formation, according to Siscar.

"A promise fulfilled" was how the president's daughter Luli described Bahay Bulilit. She was referring to her mother's pledge to help the barangay and give it what it needs.

Barangay East Rembo Chair Romanito D. Verecio narrated during the inauguration how the president had visited him in his home to ask what are the specific needs of the barangay.

Luli said that it would be good if barangay residents would let the government know what their community needs. She also lauded McDonald's for being a good corporate citizen through its projects.

The petite Luli also joked that she is well suited for Bahay Bulilit because she is a "bulilit" herself.

Secretary Soliman reminded the guests and the residents about the rights of the child, saying that these rights should be valued and observed.

The Bahay Bulilit in Makati is the first day care center of the Ronald McDonald House Charities, a nonprofit foundation founded in 1996 to create, fund and support children's programs that would focus on education, health, medical care and socio-civic activities.

McDonald officials led by McDonald's Philippines president George Young promised that more day care centers would be built throughout the country.

"McDonald's shares the president's vision that a day care center must focus on education, health and values formation of children," Yang said.

THE DAILY GOSPEL

Sunday, November 24, 2002
Christ the King

1st Reading: Ezk 34:11-12, 15-17

Indeed Yahweh says this: I myself will care for my sheep and watch over them. As the shepherd looks after his flock when he finds them scattered, so will I watch over my sheep and gather them from all the places where they were scattered in a time of cloud and fog.

I myself will tend my sheep and let them rest, word of Yahweh. I will search for the lost and lead back the strays. I will bind up the injured and strengthen the weak, but the fat and strong will be eliminated. I will shepherd my flock with justice.

As for you, my flock—says Yahweh—I will distinguish between one sheep and another, and set apart rams and goats.

2nd Reading: 1 Cor 15:20-26, 28

Brothers and sisters, Christ has been raised from the dead and he comes before all those who have fallen asleep. A human being brought death; a human being also brings resurrection of the dead. All die for being Adam's, and in Christ all will receive life. However, each one in his own time: first Christ, then Christ's people, when he visits them.

Then the end will come, when Christ delivers the kingdom to God the Father, after having destroyed every rule, authority and power. For he must reign and put all enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed will be death.

When the Father has subjected everything to him, the Son will place himself under the One who subjected everything to him. From then on, God will be all in all.

Gospel: Mt 25:31-46

Jesus said to his disciples, "When the Son of Man comes in his glory with all his angels, he will sit on the throne of his Glory. All the nations will be brought before him, and as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, so will he do with them, placing the sheep on his right and the goats on his left.

The King will say to those on his right: 'Come, blessed of my Father! Take possession of the kingdom prepared for you from the beginning of the world. For I was hungry and you fed me, I was thirsty and you gave me drink. I was a stranger and you welcomed me into your house. I was naked and you clothed me. I was sick and you visited me. I was in prison and you came to see me.'

Then the good people will ask him: 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and give you food; thirsty and give you drink, or a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to see you?' The King will answer, 'Truly, I say to you: whenever you did this to these little ones who are my brothers and sisters, you did it to me.'

Then he will say to those on his left: 'Go, cursed people, out of my sight into the eternal fire which has been prepared for the devil and his angels! For I was hungry and you did not give me anything to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink; I was a stranger and you did not welcome me into your house; I was naked and you did not clothe me; I was sick and in prison and you did not visit me.'

They, too, will ask: 'Lord, when did we see you hungry, thirsty, naked or a stranger, sick or in prison, and did not help you?' The King will answer them: 'Truly, I say to you: whatever you did not do for one of these little ones, you did not do for me.'

And these will go into eternal punishment, but the just to eternal life."

Commentary

Today's gospel pictures Jesus as a Son of Man, who has God for his Father. He is also called King which connotes Messiah and Lord. He is "one who comes in glory at the end." The Son of Man who comes in glory at the end is already present, but especially as The One whom we meet in our encounter with the poor and the needy. When we respond to human need, to those whom Jesus names blessed, we are responding to Christ. When we fail to respond to the poor and the needy, we fail to respond to Christ. Love and mercy are the criteria of judgment, not the confession of faith in Christ. What is important is whether one has acted with loving care for the needy people. Christ, our king is the divine challenge to a world that sees kingship and power as an enslavement of the other.

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SOLITUDE
A University of the Philippines student finds peace under these gigantic trees that also stood there for several generations of scholars at the Diliman campus.

DENNIS SABANGAN

'Quezon landfill project is dead'

LUCENA City—Metropolitan Manila Development Authority Chair Bayani Fernando does not have to plead again his case for the construction of a 2,000 hectare landfill before the provincial board, according to an official of Quezon province.

"That landfill project is now dead," Quezon board member Dante Cadiz yesterday told the INQUIRER in a cell phone interview.

"The provincial board will stand pat on the intent and spirit of our resolution that rejected the MMDA project," he said.

Cadiz also advised Fernando to start looking for another area that would be willing to accept his pet project.

"But not here in Quezon," he stressed.

Fernando on Friday said that he would again try to appeal to Quezon officials to reconsider their decision of scrapping the planned conversion of vast agricultural lands in Tiaong and Candelaria towns into a depository of 6,000 tons of daily garbage from Metro Manila.

But Cadiz admitted that "it is another matter" if the national government would enter into the picture and start expropriating the target area for the planned garbage site based on the inherent right of the state as embodied in the Constitution.

A protest caravan on Friday was also held to show the residents' unified stance against MMDA's proposal even if the provincial board earlier had passed a resolution rejecting the garbage deal.

Cadiz, proponent of the resolution, said he was wondering why there was continuous protest from the locals when the provincial council had already rejected the proposal.

"I can't see the reason why (there is a) need for these protest actions," he said. "The provincial council will be responsible enough to stick to its unanimous decision of rejecting the MMDA project."

But activist priest Fr. Raul Enriquez explained that "with a history of a flip-plopping tendency by Quezon officials, the people of the province should be more suspicious (of) the resolution that had supposedly rejected the MMDA plan."

Enriquez is also the chair of the Social Action Center of the Diocese of Lucena.

"It could transform into a more sinister scheme being worked out through the backdoor," Enriquez said. "If Chair Fernando will embark on an information campaign to sell his stinking proposal, we will also launch our own educational campaign to unmask the evil behind his scheme."

Pastor Noel Suministrado, protestant clergy from Sariaya, warned MMDA Chair Bayani Fernando that "his strongman tactics will never apply here in Quezon." "May this protest mobilization open your eyes to the futility of the project," he said.

Protest leaders also lambasted Quezon Gov. Wilfrido Enverga for "not having the decency and time" to meet the thousands of ralliers that converged in front of his office last Friday.

"What's wrong with our delegation? We are his constituents who just wanted to meet and hand him our demands for an outright rejection of MMDA project," Enriquez said.

Enverga was supposedly in the nearby convention center when the protesters gathered in front of his office.

Quezon 2nd district Cong. Lynnete Punzalan is also "very much against the project," according to her district officer Johnny Oliveros.

Arnel Avila, Enverga's community relation officer, who earlier said that the garbage dump proposal was Enverga's idea corrected his statements and said that the governor "is strongly against turning Quezon into a dumpsite." He said that he had made a mistake when he attributed the proposal to Enverga, adding that the idea came from Kawasaki.

Delfin T. Mallari Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

A 'caravend' for Caloocan vendors

By Tina Santos

CALOOCAN City sidewalk vendors who were displaced by the clearing operations of the Metro Manila Development Authority can now look forward to their own cite in the city.

The local government is exploring the possibility of a "caravend," which is similar to a flea market or a *tiangge* that would give the displaced vendors an alternative to sidewalk vending, according to Caloocan Public Information Officer Susan de Leon.

"With this, the vendors will have an opportunity to sell their wares in designated areas identified by the local government, and away from being obstructions to traffic and pedestrians," she said.

In a summit held at city hall last Tuesday, representatives from Philhealth, Social Security System (SSS) and Quendacor, an institution under the Department of Agriculture, identified alternative means of livelihood for the displaced vendors.

"The summit aims to empower hundreds of displaced hawkers in the city and provide them with options for earning a living," De Leon said.

She said that aside from the displaced vendors, the summit was also intended to help members of the labor force under the informal sector, which include tricyle and pedicab drivers and home-based workers.

The informal sector, which operates mostly underground, comprise about 51 percent of the total labor force, according to the International Labor Organization, the IS.

De Leon said that Mayor Rey Malonzo has already tasked local authorities to conduct surveys that will identify vendors who were and will be greatly affected by the MMDA's continuous sidewalk clearing drive.

MMDA Chair Bayani Fernando earlier said that he would continue the clearing operations even in December and not give the vendors a chance to cash in on the Christmas season trade.

But De Leon advised vendors to acquire new livelihood skills aside from hawking, admitting that the city would not be able to accommodate all the vendors who have been displaced.

MMDA wants new breed of traffic enforcers

By Leila B. Salaverria

WANTED: Male and female graduates of reputable universities; must have trim waistlines and must not be grossly overweight; males must be at least 5'7 tall.

This is how a wanted ad for traffic enforcers might appear if the Metro Manila Development Authority pushes through with its plan to adopt a more stringent set of rules in hiring traffic personnel next year.

Traffic Operations Center Director Angelito Vergel de Dios yesterday said in a phone interview that MMDA Chair Bayani Fernando wants to create a new breed of "all-around, well-trained and well equipped" enforcers who are capable in mobile patrol, traffic enforcing and other road functions of the MMDA.

He said that to do this, the MMDA would hire only college graduates, and would impose height and weight requirements. A male traffic enforcer should be at least 5'7 tall, and should not be grossly overweight. A maximum size for his waistline will also be one of the requirements, he added.

"An enforcer with a protruding stomach is not a pretty sight, isn't it?" Vergel de Dios said yesterday.

He said potential MMDA traffic enforcers and tow truck operators must also pass a neuro-psychological test to determine their capacity for the job. They must also be schooled in the MMDA's proposed traffic academy, he added.

For its mobile patrol, the MMDA will also hire women, Vergel de Dios said.

"We want to have at least 10 lady riders," he said "When a woman apprehends a motorist, the motorist is less likely to be antagonistic and would be less hotheaded about being caught."

He said that the new enforcers would also serve as replacements for the 119 traffic division employees who were recently sacked.

But more enforcers would probably be hired to augment the MMDA's 2,000 traffic force which is not enough to man Metro Manila's major intersections, main thoroughfares and other traffic-congested areas said the traffic director.

SUPREME COURT DOCTRINES

REMEDIAL LAW (EVIDENCE)—Character of the accused—In criminal cases, sub-paragraph 1 of Section 51 of Rule 130 provides that the accused may prove his good moral character which is pertinent to the moral trait involved in the offense charged. When the accused presents proof of his good moral character, this strengthens the presumption of innocence, and where good character and reputation are established, an inference arises that the accused did not commit the crime charged. This view proceeds from the theory that a person of good character and high reputation is not likely to have committed the act charged against him. Sub-paragraph 2 provides that the prosecution may not prove the bad moral character of the accused except only in rebuttal and when such evidence is pertinent to the moral trait involved in the offense charged. This is intended to avoid unfair prejudice to the accused who might otherwise be convicted not because he is guilty but because he is a person of bad character. The offering of character evidence on his behalf is a privilege of the defendant, and the prosecution cannot comment on the failure of the defendant to produce such evidence. Once the defendant raises the issue of his good character, the prosecution may, in rebuttal, offer evidence of the defendant's bad character. Otherwise, a defendant, secure from refutation, would have a license to unscrupulously impose a false character upon the tribunal. [Citations omitted.] [En Banc, Justice Puno, People v. Lee, G. R. No. 139070, May 29, 2002] DIGEST BY R. B. VERA

'NBI agents tried. . .

From page A23

Sanchez on Thursday said that she went to the NBI headquarters and wanted to see Cadhit whom she claimed was being detained illegally since "no formal charges were filed" against him. She said she just wanted the agents to produce Cadhit and denied that she banged the door of the NBI office. She said she "just knocked."

When asked in the radio interview yesterday if Cadhit plans to file a complaint against the agents, Sanchez said the businessman is no longer interested because he had been traumatized by the incident.

"He's scared," she said. "He's scared to move against the NBI agents," she added in Filipino. "Who would dare go against them? I told Wycoco and (NBI-NCR chief Edmundo) Arugay to file charges against Cadhit if they want, but none was filed," she said. "I told them it's bad to detain a person when there is no basis for doing so."

Quoting Cadhit, Sanchez said that the businessman had already settled with the complainant but the agents still detained him and asked him to pay up.

But NBI agents said that a subpoena was issued for Cadhit's arrest.

Sanchez also admitted in the radio interview that when the NBI agents denied that Cadhit was inside the office, she and ABS-CBN reporter Robert Tan were so angry they wanted to break the windows just to show that the agents were lying.

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3 SWEET HOME ALABAMA
4 HARRY POTTER 2
5 MASTER OF DISGUISE
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11 KAILANGAN KITA
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3 HARRY POTTER 2
4 HARRY POTTER 2
5 MASTER OF DISGUISE
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7 BIYAHERA
8 GISING NA SI ADAN
9 KAILANGAN KITA
10 TRANSPORTER
11 HIBLA
12 BRAZEN WOMEN

SM CITY NORTH EDSA
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2 HARRY POTTER 2
3 HIBLA
4 BRAZEN WOMEN
5 MASTER OF DISGUISE
6 CLOCKSTOPPERS
7 HARRY POTTER 2
8 HARRY POTTER 2

SM SOUTHMALL
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2 MASTER OF DISGUISE
3 HARRY POTTER 2
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5 GISING NA SI ADAN
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9 CLOCKSTOPPERS
10 BIYAHERA

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1 HARRY POTTER 2
2 SWEET HOME ALABAMA
3 POSSESSION
BROTHERHOOD OF THE WOLF
5 HIBLA
6 PARAISONG PARISUKAT
7 KAILANGAN KITA
8 HARRY POTTER 2

SM CITY ILOILO
3209422

1 PARAISONG PARISUKAT
2 CLOSED
3 SWEET HOME ALABAMA
4 GHOST SHIP
5 CHANGING LANES
6 HARRY POTTER 2
7 CLOSED
8 HIBLA

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2 HARRY POTTER 2
3 BIYAHERA
4 HIBLA
5 CHANGING LANES
6 KAILANGAN KITA

SM SUPER CTR. SUCAT
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1 HIBLA
2 HARRY POTTER 2
3 HARRY POTTER 2
4 KAILANGAN KITA

SM CINEMA TUTUBAN
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1 HARRY POTTER 2
2 HIBLA
3 KAILANGAN KITA
4 GISING NA SI ADAN

SM CITY DAVAO
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2 HIBLA
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Saying goodbye

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

SAYING goodbye is getting to be a habit on the local and international entertainment scenes, more's the pity. In local show biz, the well-loved writer-director, **Luciano B. Carlos**, died a week ago in the States. All too soon, he was followed by **Zaldy Zshornack**.

In the US, **Kim Hunter** who won an Oscar for her supporting performance as Stella in the 1951 film version of "A Streetcar Named Desire," passed away at age 79. She was followed by **James Coburn**.

Each of these four luminaries enjoyed long, eventful careers, and are mourned by their respective groups of fans.

Chaning Carlos wrote and directed films for more than 50 years, and won his share of awards and other honors. More on him tomorrow.

For his part, Zaldy Zshornack first made his mark in the movies with the popular "Lo' Waist Gang" film series, along with **Fernando Poe, Jr.** and **Berting Labra**.

Later he became known as an action star and a good dancer. This isn't all that strange a combination on the local movie scene, since **Jun Aristorenas** also started as a hoofer in stage shows and later starred in action films.

To our mind, Zaldy was underrated as an actor. We saw some of his dramatic performances in which he acquitted himself very well, and rued the fact that he wasn't given more such roles in more attention-calling productions.

Kim Hunter is not very well-known here, but in US theater circles, she was regarded as a particularly gifted and versatile actress.

Her role in "A Streetcar Named Desire" was the highlight of her long career. She played the part of Stella first in the play's stage version, then on the big screen.

Her other films included "Deadline U.S.A." (with **Humphrey Bogart**), "Lilith" (with **Warren Beatty** and **Jean Seberg**), and "Planet of the Apes" (with **Charlton Heston**).

On TV, she appeared in popular soap operas like "As the World Turns" and "The Edge of Night," as well as in many drama shows and TV movies.

And James Coburn is best remembered for his character and star turns in movies like "The Magnificent Seven" and the "In Like Flint" spy-thriller film series.

His other movies include "The President's Analyst," "Face of A Fugitive," "The Great Escapo," "Charade," "Major Dundee," "A High Wind in Jamaica," "Candy," "Pat Garrett and Billy the Kid," "Bite the Bullet," "Midway," "High Risk," "Death of A Soldier" "Young Guns 2" and "Sister Act 2."

The Mobb

THE MOBB performs every last Wednesday of each month at the Captain's Bar of Mandarin Oriental, Manila, bringing the music of the 60's and 70's to the fore. On Wednesday, Nov. 27 from 9 p.m. to 12:30 a.m., the retro band features **Ronnie Henares** and the "Replay" band of De La Salle as special guests.

The Mobb is made up of **Gigi Zulueta**, president of Ward Howell (Phils.); **Aton Atilano**, chairman and president of Kohl Industries; **Gerry Reyes**, chief finance officer of Southeast Asia Foods; Dr. **Felix Rivera**; **Doods Policarpio**, EVP Prudential Life; **Babes Tolentino**, Unicity, IBO director and **Jordan Tongson**, Manulife Senior executive. **Roland Tecson** is the group's musical director.

Animation festival

AT THE Animation Festival at Shangri-La Plaza starting Nov. 28, three long features from France will be screened—"Kirikou and the Sorceress" and "Princess and Princesses" by **Michael Ocelot**, and "Le Roi at l' Oiseau by **Jaques Prevert** and **Paul Grimault**, based on **Hans Christian Andersen**'s "La Bergere et le Ramoneur."

The festival will also feature 40 French animated shorts under five themes—"Whodunnits and Chase," "Taking Flight," "The Menagerie," "Modern Tales," and "Familiar and Unusual Worlds."

Also showcased are short films from the 60's to the 90's that won awards at the prestigious Annecy International Animation Festival in France.

Pinoy animation will be featured on Nov. 30. The program includes recent Filipino independent and studio works, "Animagination works," and "Ang Tadhana," a special tribute to the late **Nonoy Marcelo**. Call 633-7851, local 110.

'Diva 2 Diva': Not a showdown of talents

From page A28

va 2 Diva," the audience will see Kuh and Zsa Zsa doing things the singers have never done before. For instance, the divas will perform Madonna's "Vogue," operetta-style, complete with powdered wigs on their heads.

"So it will be something different," Kuh says. "This is really a bigger produced show, like 'Power of Two,' but at the same time, unlike anything we've done before."

(For tickets to the concert, call Ticket World at 891-5610, Music Musem at 721-6726 or Headline Concepts at 551-7251 to 55)

Major blunder!

THERE'S talk that ABS-CBN is planning to kill the character of **Edu Manzano** in the top-rating teleseries, "Kay Tagal Kang Hinintay." Edu plays Henry Argos, the evil husband of **Lorna Tolentino**.

If this is true, then the network could be making a major blunder. Some avid viewers of the teleseries note that Edu's presence has helped a lot to maintain the program's high ratings.

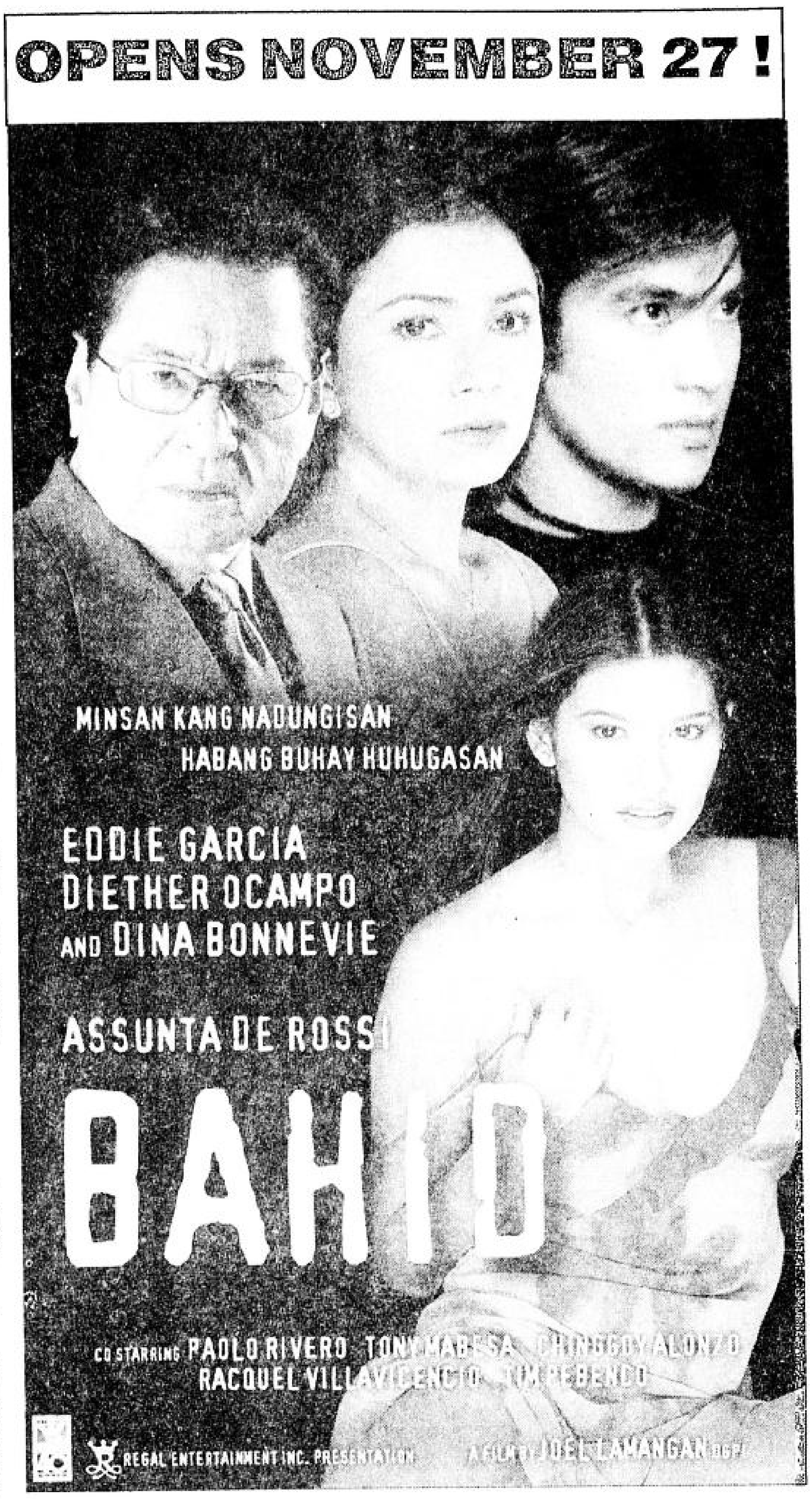
In fact, one of the writers of the teleseries believes the ratings will suffer once Edu's character is killed, because Henry provides the interesting twists in the drama series.

The writer also adds Edu is perfect for his role as Henry Argos, because the actor knows how to breathe life to his character.

It would be interesting to see what will happen next, as the plot thickens in "Kay Tagal Kang Hinintay."

Meanwhile, ABS-CBN could re-think its decision before making the move.

MANZANO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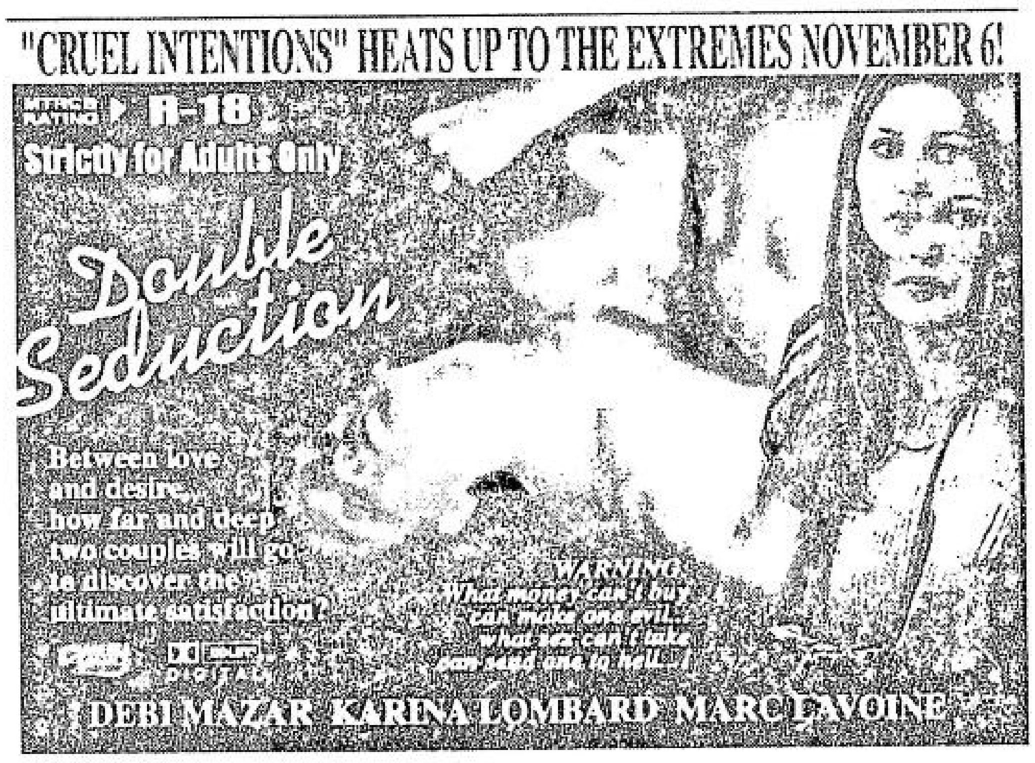
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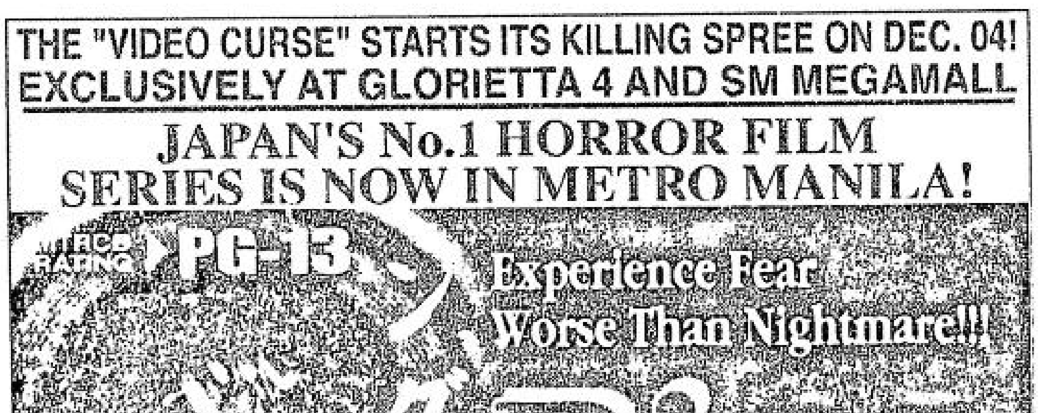
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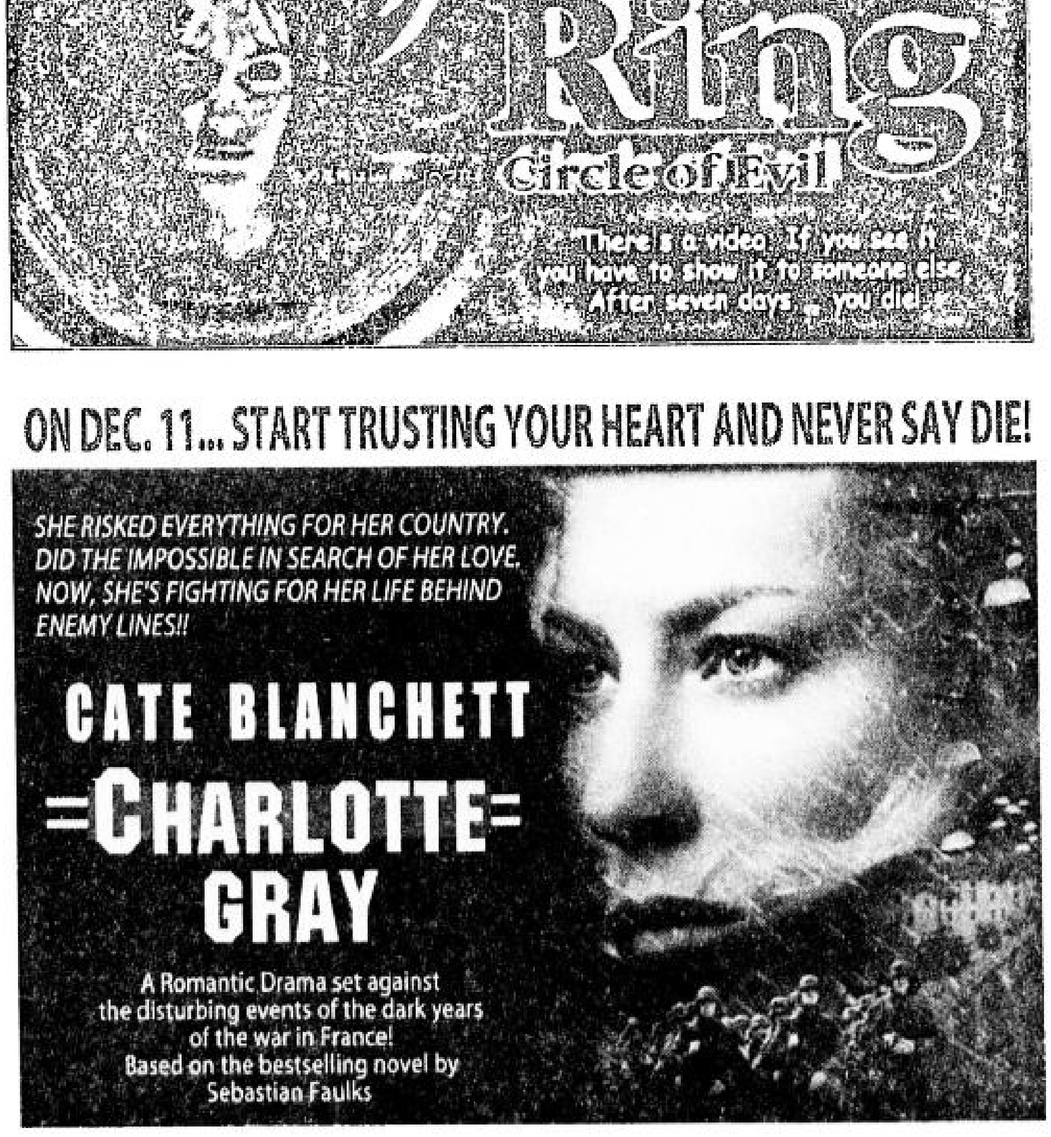
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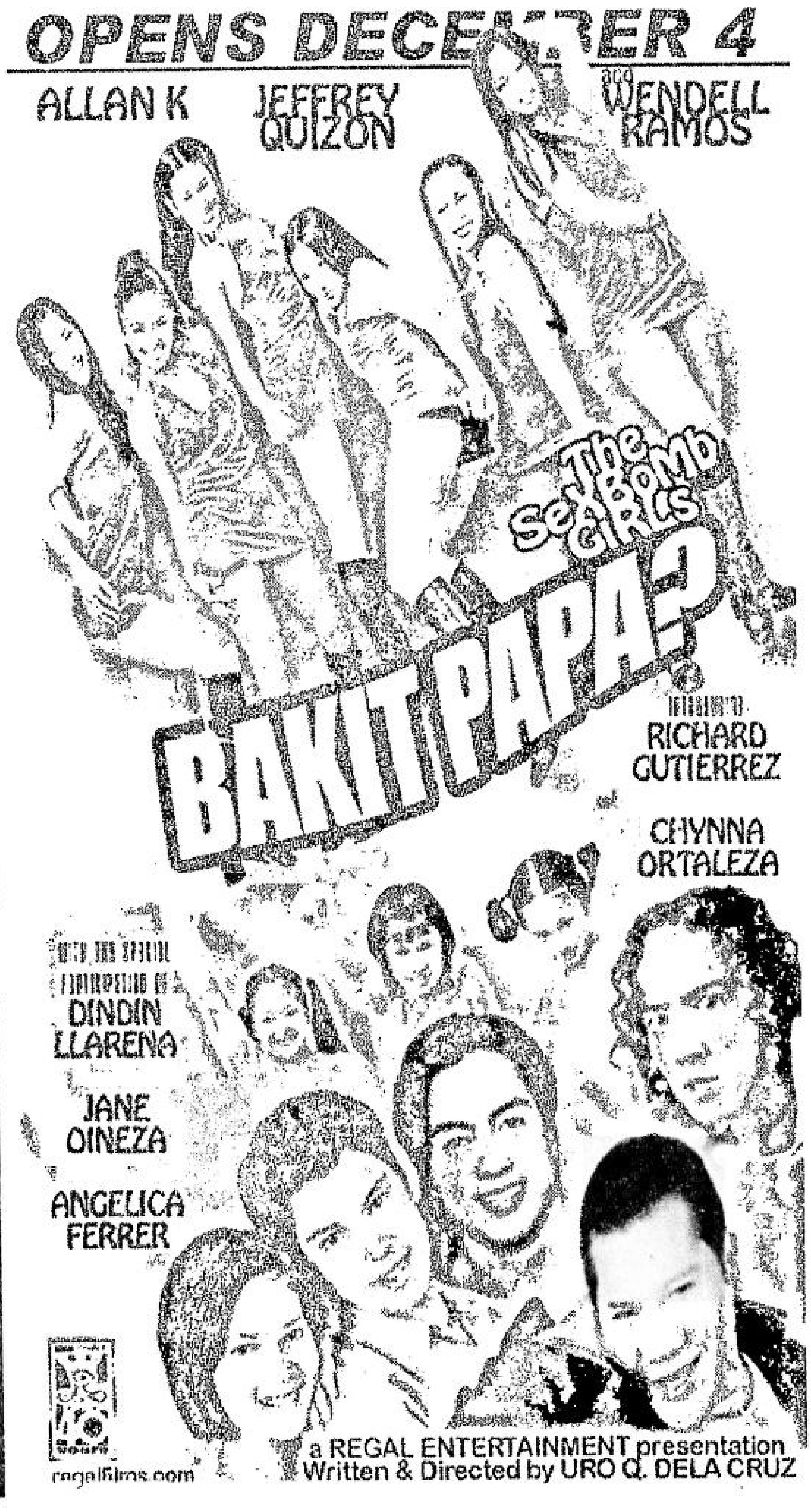
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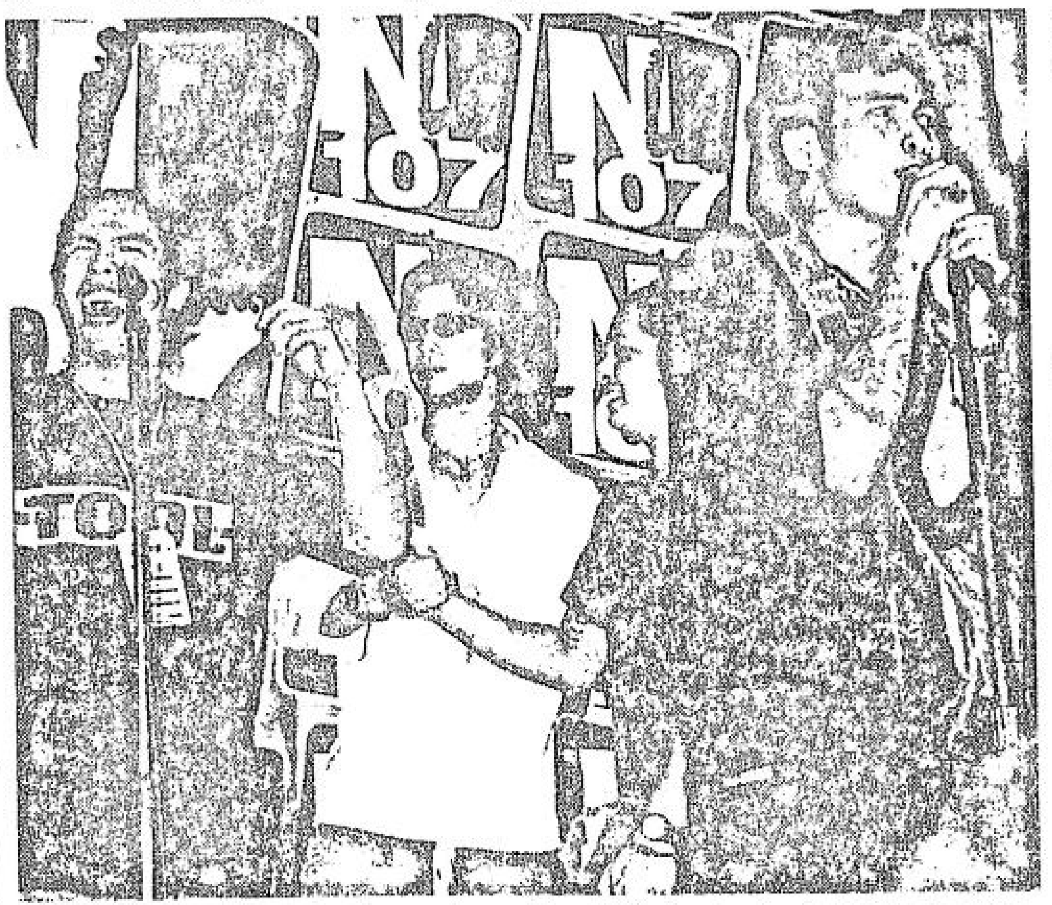
CHICOSCI vocalist Miggy Chavez accepts song of the year award for "Paris."



"JOLOGS DAW OH." Diether Ocampo (second from left) minutes after the bottle-throwing incident. Cheese vocalist Ian Tayao (extreme right) says his thanks.

BURNED BAD. Marben Romero reacts to crowd jeers.

PHOTOS BY JIMMY DY

NU 107 ROCK AWARDS

Diether's remark causes near-riot

By Marinel R. Cruz

A TACTLESS remark of actor Diether Ocampo during the NU 107 Rock Awards "Who Rocks Your World?" show elicited a wild reaction from the audience who watched the ceremony at the World Trade Center in Pasay City last Wednesday night.

Diether, who was one of the presenters, made a remark perhaps in jest, and referred to the audience as "mga jologs."

The crowd, who felt insulted by the comment, wildly reacted by throwing empty water bottles and soft drink cans onstage, inevitably hitting Diether's co-presenter, ABS-CBN reporter Rickie Kwek on the face.

A riot would have easily ensued, but NU 107 disc jockeys immediately stepped in to pacify the extremely uncontrollable crowd.

While "jologs" could also refer to a person who is true to himself, like what Diether's recent movie of the same title had conveyed, the term could also be interpreted as "kanto boy" or "istambay" to most of the people who watched that night.

A guest noted the incident could have been prevented had the show organizers banned bottled drinks. Some even managed to sneak in some cigarettes and alcoholic beverages to the venue.

Presenters Regine Tolentino, Michelle Bayle, Joey Mead, Mylene Dizon and Jenny Miller also had their dose of vicious taunts from the crowd that night. What this writer heard from the audience cannot possibly see print.

PRODUCER of the year awardee Raimund Marasigan takes pictures of the roaring crowd.

The crowd repeatedly shouted, "Luto! Luto!" when the Quark Henares video "Down" won the rock video of the year award for the Pin-Up Girls.

A group from Team Manila (nominated for Slapshock's "Numb" music video) associated director Henares' winning to his relationship to NU 107 president Atom Henares, who is Quark's dad.

The 22-year-old Henares made his directorial debut in "Gamitan," which starred the sexy Maui Taylor.

Whether Slapshock had been offended or not when the crowd chanted "Keso! Keso! Keso!" after the band was called to accept the band of the year award, the group did not show any sign of disgust.

Slapshock main man Jamir Garcia instead dedicated the award to crowd-favorite Cheese.

The said trophy was the only award Slapshock brought home this year, compared to last year's five.

Cheese, meanwhile, equaled the number of awards that Chicosci brought home that night.

Cheese won the highly coveted album of the year plum for "Pilipinas" and the vocalist of the year award for Ian Tayao.

Cheese was also the recipient of the 2002 Listener's Choice Award.

Chicosci's "Paris" copped the song of the year plum, besting other chart toppers like "Mottaka" (Cheese), "Your Puppet and Clown" (Greyhoundz), "Umaaraw, Umuulan" (Rivermaya) and "Numb" (Slapshock).

Chicosci's Mon Alcaraz and Sonny Baquisal bagged the guitarist of the year award, while. Raimund Marasigan was named producer of the year for his work on Chicosci's "Method of Breathing," as well as Monsterbot's "Destroy! Destroy!"

Greyhoundz, another crowd favorite, became a big disappointment when it won only one of its eight nominations. Niño Avenido took home the bassist of the year citation for Greyhoundz.

Badburn's Libyano was heralded drummer of the year, while Boldstar won the best new artist award over the more popular bands Monsterbot, Blue Jean Junkies and the Bridge.

Flying House and Agimat Studios accepted the trophy for best album packaging for their work in Parokya ni Edgar's self-titled album.

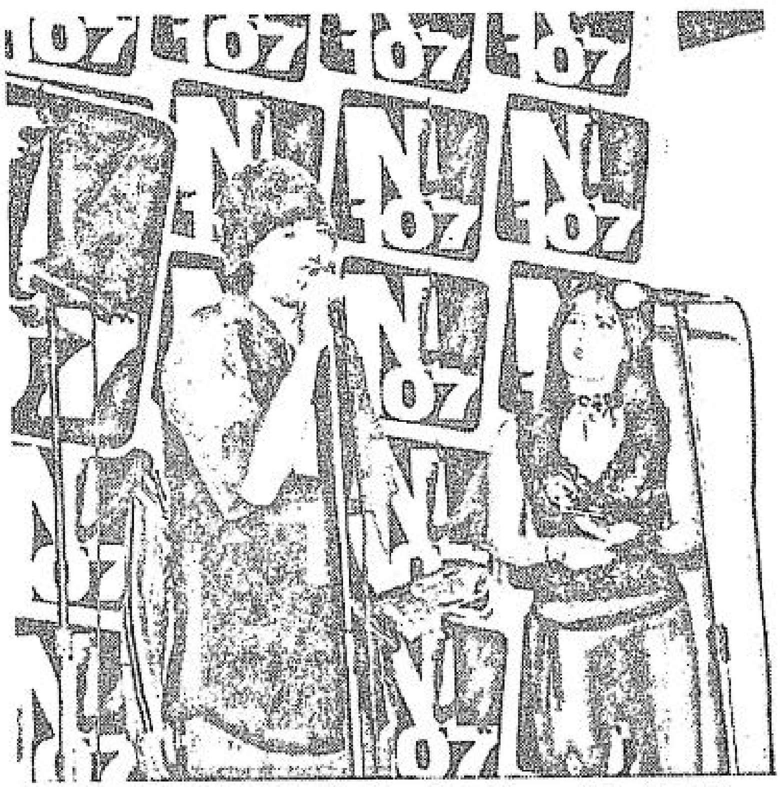
The Raw Award for the best unsigned band went to Popular Days.

This year's Hall of Fame awardee is guitarist Wally Gonzales of the Juan de la Cruz band. The band that popularized songs like "Beh Bote Nga" and "Teacher's Enemy No. 1," is widely considered one of the pillars of Pinoy blues music.

This year's judges included journalists Mayo Uno and Goldwyn Morales; artists Noel Cabangon and Bayang Barios; Annie Alejo, Chemical magazine editor in chief; and Jett Pangan, The Dawn lead vocalist.

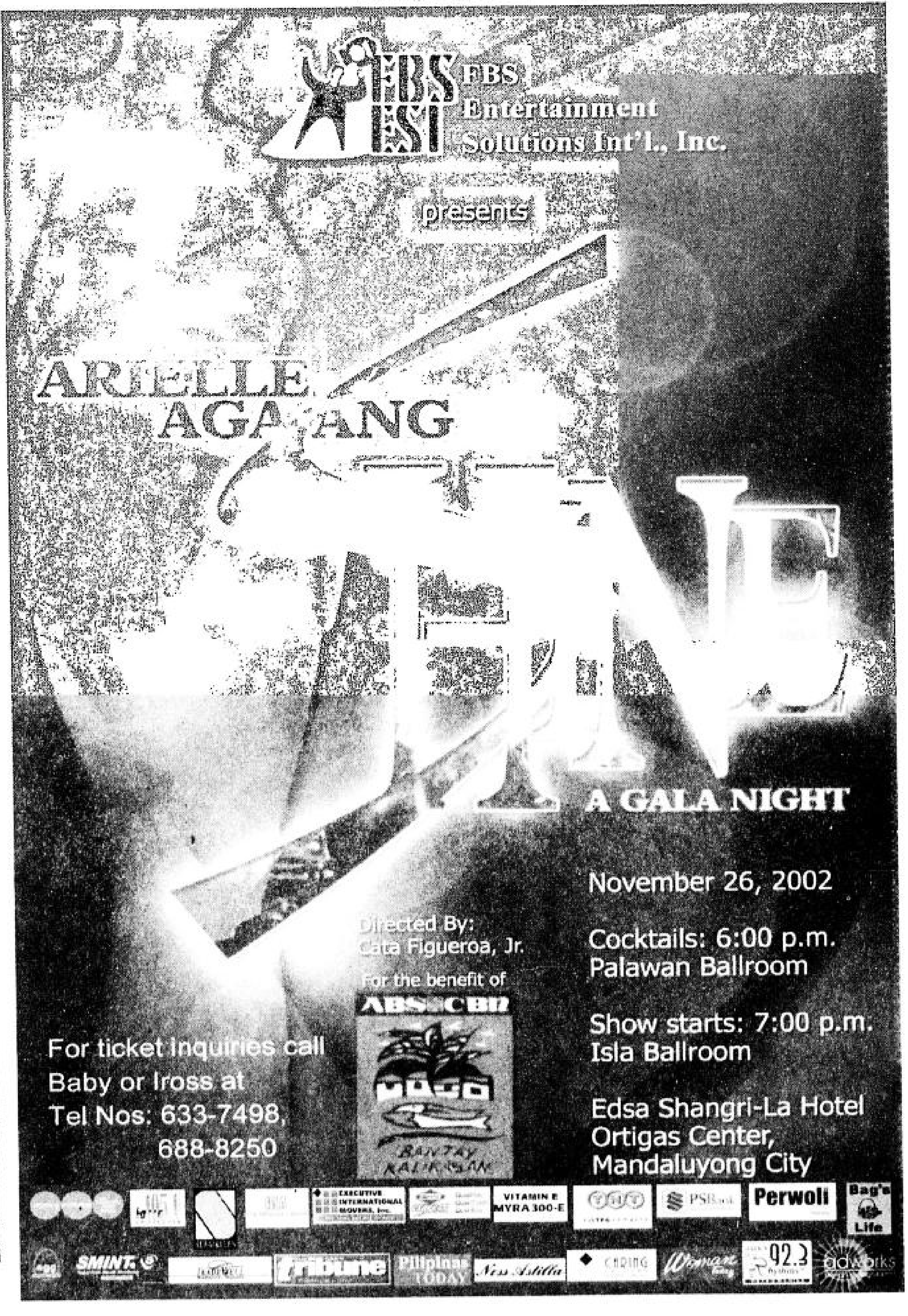
However, despite the crowd attendance at the Rock Awards, last Wednesday's disastrous show at the WTC left many NU 107 followers asking, "Is it still safe to watch another NU 107 awards ceremony?"

ROCK 'n Roll legend Joey Pepe Smith.



GREYHOUNDZ'S PRIDE. Niño Avenido is this year's best bassist. Looking over is presenter Regine Tolentino.

NU'S BEST NEW ARTIST. Boldstar expects more gigs after winning this award.



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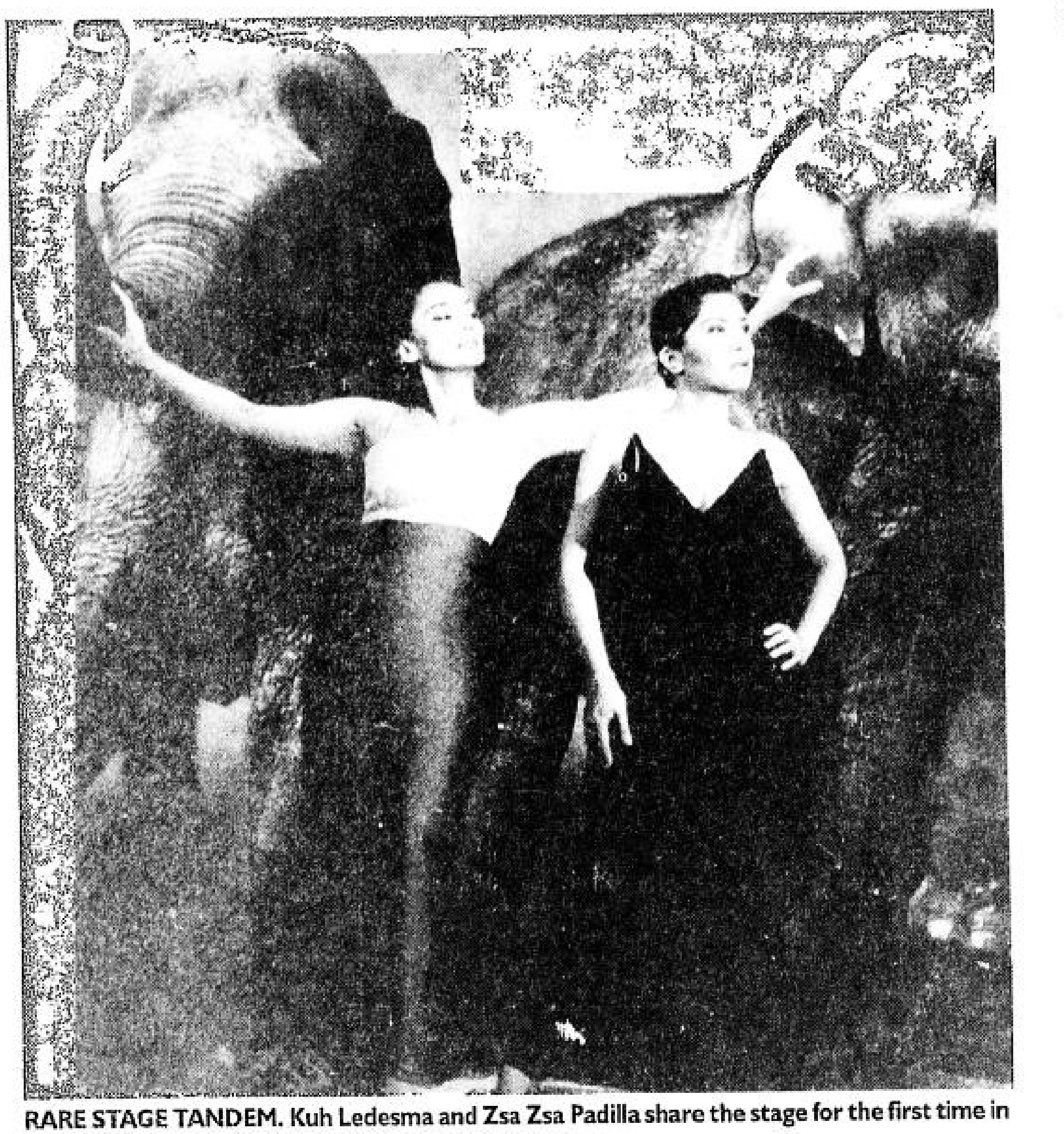

RARE STAGE TANDEM. Kuh Ledesma and Zsa Zsa Padilla share the stage for the first time in a back-to-back two-night concert at the PICC.

'Diva 2 Diva': Not a showdown of talents

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Leah Salterio

WHEN **Kuh Ledesma** started her "Power of Two" series, everyone believed that sooner or later, there would be a concert starring the pop diva and divine diva **Zsa Zsa Padilla**. After all, **Regine Velasquez**, **Pops Fernandez** and **Jaya**, three of the biggest female singers in the business, had their turn to share the stage with Kuh.

But the concert didn't happen, until now. It was probably one of the most difficult concerts to mount because its stars are two of the busiest in the industry.

"Diva 2 Diva," the long overdue and much-awaited back-to-back concert of Kuh and Zsa Zsa, finally gets underway on Nov. 29 and 30 at the Plenary Hall of the Philippine International Convention Center (PICC).

Interestingly, Kuh and Zsa Zsa are even jointly producing the two-night show.

Kuh discloses "Diva 2 Diva" is one show that literally took years to bring to the stage.

"I've always had Zsa Zsa in mind to do a concert with," Kuh allows. "The problem was our schedules. In fact, we started to talk about this idea as early as two or three years ago, but either she was busy or I was. When she became available, I had another show to do. It wasn't easy getting us together, but we've done it."

And even when they had both committed themselves to doing the show, schedules were still a problem.

The artists' respective road managers—**Malo Cruz** for Kuh and **Nene Atiliano** for Zsa Zsa—had trouble trying to find a common schedule for production meetings, pictorials, gown fittings, interviews and rehearsals into the schedules of the two divas. Things were so hectic that there were times either Kuh or Zsa Zsa had to rush to another engagement after whatever it was they were doing at the time.

Coordinating their schedules with the schedules of their creative team was another problem. Kuh and Zsa Zsa chose some of the best people to work with. For their stage director, they picked **Leo Rialp**, a veteran of the live concert scene. For the musical director, **Louie Ocampo** was called for the job.

Then there was scriptwriter **Floy Quintos** and costume designer **Salvador "Badong" Bernal**, who created all the dazzling and glamorous outfits for past productions at the Cultural Center of the Philippines (CCP).

Bernal, it is said, came out of semi-retirement just to work for the "Diva 2 Diva" concert.

Kuh and Zsa Zsa also sought the help of young designers **Rajo Laurel** and **Edwin Uy** to whip up a collection of gowns for their production numbers.

Everyone in the industry is aware that a concert like "Diva 2 Diva" only comes in a rare while. And there is nothing easy about mounting such a show. Aside from the schedule problems, there's also the matter of making sure each diva gets equal exposure in terms of songs and production numbers.

And in the publicity, too. You would have to make sure that each diva gets her share of exposure in the media prior to the concert. The fact that they are producing the concert themselves makes it easy for them to ensure that each gets equal exposure. But at this point in their careers, Kuh and Zsa Zsa are beyond competing against each other. Doing what they love best has become more important than anything else.

"We don't want this to be a showdown, where we're trying to prove who's better," Zsa Zsa says. "I didn't accept this show to flaunt my talent. That wasn't the intention."

Kuh agrees, "If it becomes that, the show wouldn't come out well. Zsa Zsa and I just want to enjoy ourselves. I think this concept comes at the right time in our lives when we're much more mature as performers and know how to enjoy ourselves while we're onstage."

Kuh points out that becoming a Christian has changed her perspective on everything, including her career. Proving that she's the best is no longer her priority.

"I sing for God now," says Kuh. "And because of that, I've learned to enjoy it more. It's no longer just a job, but something that I look forward to every time I'm up there performing."

Together, Kuh and Zsa Zsa also chose the lineup of songs in the concert, which is made up of about 80 percent duets. The repertoire includes the gospel number "Light a Million Mornings" by **Sandi Patti** and an all-female version of the **Andrea Bocceli** and **Celine Dion** duet, "The Prayer."

Now that they have been given the chance to work together, Kuh and Zsa Zsa have learned a lot of things about each other. More important, they have gained a new respect for each other's talent and way of doing things.

"Kuh and I move in the same circle, but we were never really that close," Zsa Zsa grants. "And until now, I never realized why a lot of people are intimidated by her. It's because she's a perfectionist. When it comes to her work, she can really be *makulit*. Everything has to be just right. But that's only because she wants the show to be perfect. It's just her way. I used to be intimidated by her before, but now I know better."

For her part, Kuh realized Zsa Zsa was not the type of person other people or the media painted her out to be.

"Zsa Zsa is very easy to work with," Kuh says. "Because of this show, I've gotten to know her a lot more. She doesn't have a mean bone in her body."

The two artists are sparing no expense to make their first concert together memorable. In "Di-

DIVA A[illegible]

E-mail: pr_entertainment@inquirer.com.ph

ENTERTAINMENT

Editor Louie C. Camino

Crossover gathers top artists in one show

MORE than a year ago, 105.1 Crossover conceptualized a unique monthly concert series, "Crossover Presents" that treats the audience to a performance that is classy, elegant and soft on the ears.

A string of sold-out SRO shows have led the people behind 105.1 Crossover to come up with an even bigger and better concert.

On Dec. 5 (Thursday) at Le Pavilion Metropolitan Park in Roxas Blvd., top concert artists that have performed in the Crossover series will share the stage for a rare celebration of music, "Best of Crossover Presents."

The event will headline Gary Valenciano, Regine Velasquez, Lani Misalucha, Basil Valdez, Jaya, Ogie Alcasid, Nanette Inventor, Janno Gibbs and Joey Generoso, backed up Mel Villena, Cesar Aguas, Bond Samson, Bobby Taylo, Roy Mercado and The Opera, with musical director Gerard Salonga.

Another highlight of the evening is the special launch of the "Best of Crossover Presents" CD from Viva Records, that features a compilation of rare Crossover tunes that have been recorded for the first time by the Tickets at P800 are available at Ticket World at 891-5610, Crossover office at 731-1667 or 0917-8281051. Or call the delivery hotline at 844-2947 and 844-8159.

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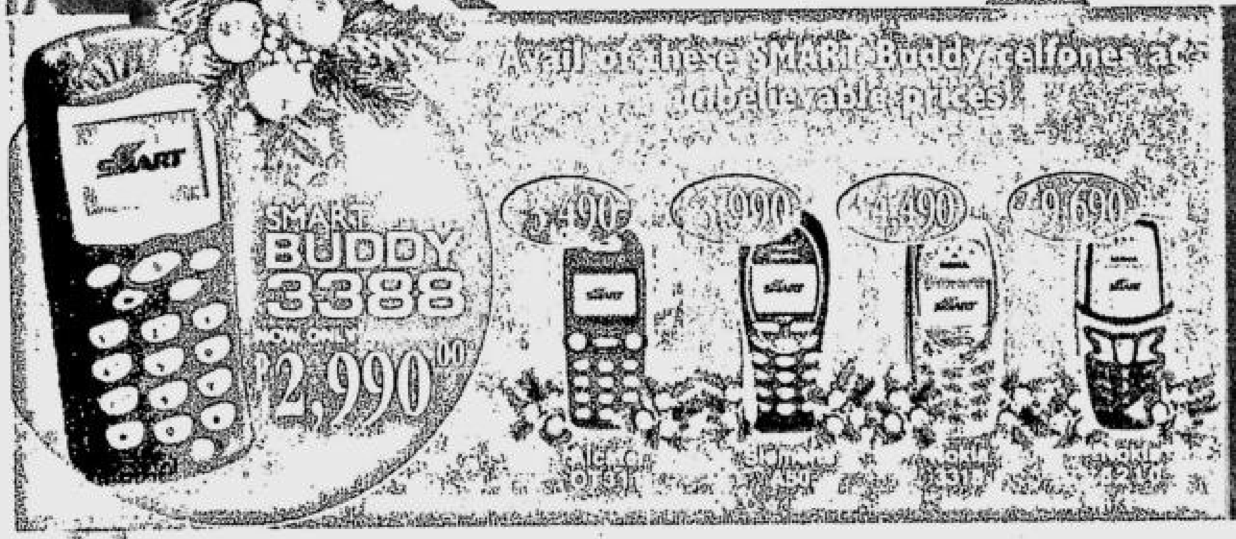
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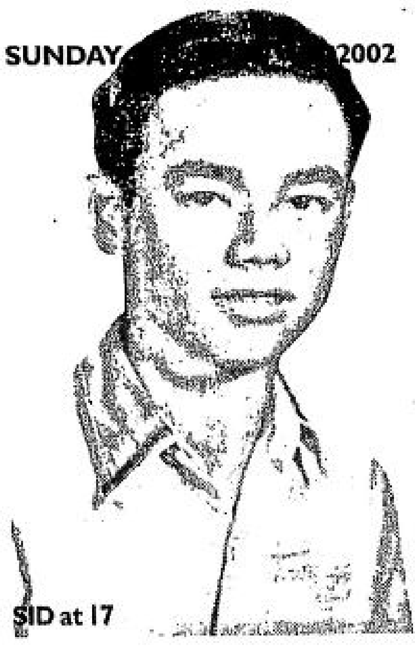


SID at 17

Construction firm heir did the rounds of junkyards before earning his place

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

ISIDRO A. Consunji usually goes to top-level meetings with fellow businessmen in his "business" attire, which consists of slacks and a cotton shirt with collar. There are times though when he can be forced to wear a suit.

He dispenses with protocol and can be seen mingling comfortably with the staff of the many companies under the wing of conglomerate DMCI Holdings Inc., unlike other CEOs who put importance in strictly following the chain of command.

But then again, Consunji has always lived life and handled business in a slightly different way from the rest. Ever since he started working when he was just 18 years old.

Consunji, the eldest son of construction magnate David M. Consunji, tells SundayBiz that he worked in the motorpool section of his father's company after he decided to take a break from his civil engineering studies at the University of the Philippines in 1967.

"I decided to quit school for a while because I could not focus on my studies. I was like other teenagers who were preoccupied with parties and going out," Consunji explains.

FIRST JOB

He worked in the motorpool section for one semester handling the trucks and cranes that were rented out. He would buy spare parts in Binondo, do the rounds of the junkyards and do business with surplus shops.

He earned P300 a month, which was more than the P30 a week that he got as an allowance. Still, he would finish off the P300 in three days.

"It felt good to earn money because it was more than my allowance but I soon realized that it was no good, it was a dead end job so I went back to school," Consunji says.

He, however, was not willing to give up his extra income so he took a part-time job with the family logging company in Zamboanga. He eventually worked with the company full time after he finally finished his civil engineering degree in 1971.

"I actually started working in the engineering section of DMCI but I learned early on that I did not like it. It felt like I was having final exams everyday, there was no fun. I do not believe in doing work that does not have a big component of fun although engineering is a good foundation," he explains.

CONSUNJI during the Hampstead Gardens topping off ceremony

The logging operation provided him with the proper mix of business and fun so he stayed for about two years. He was proud to have paid all the obligations of the family business shortly after he took over the company.

"It was a small logging concession and we were shipping something like 2,500 cubic meters of lumber. At that time shipping 4,000 cubic meters was already something significant and nobody ever shipped 10,000 cubic meters of lumber. We were able to do it. I like breaking records," he says.

Consunji was happy exploring Zamboanga but he felt the need to go back to school and hone his business management skills.

ISIDRO A. Consunji (right) with father, construction magnate David M. Consunji

Consunji went for a Master's in Business Management degree from the Asian Institute of Management but he was not able to finish it.

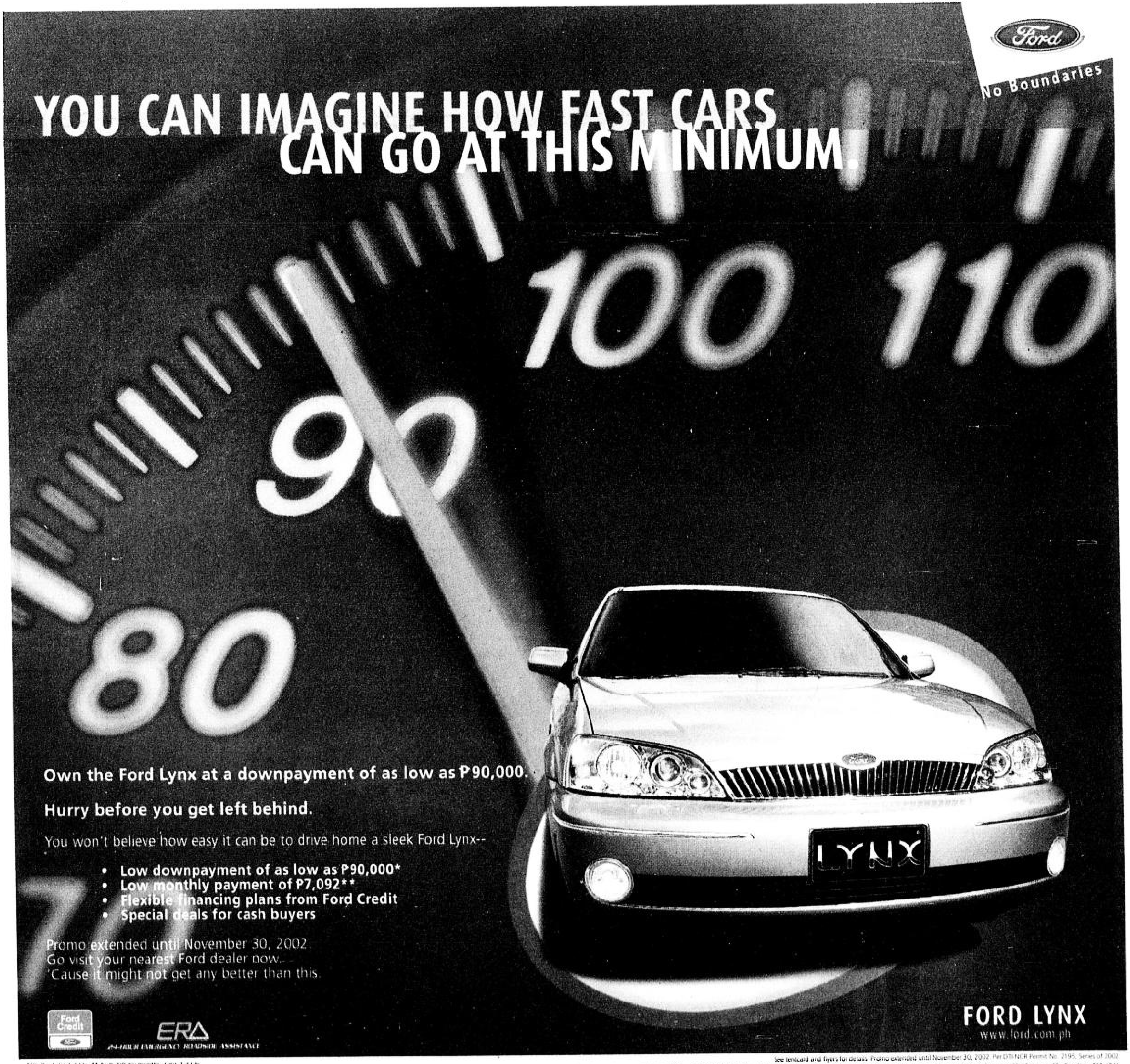
"I don't think the teachers liked my attitude because I was not taking my studies too seriously. It was only because I was more interested in the discovery of new learning rather than just the academics. I looked at the degree as picking up something if it is useful," he says.

Consunji believes that the habit of picking up useful bits of information and insights that he gathers from different sources allowed him to put together business plans and strategies for the company now that he is president of the conglomerate.

"It is like putting together a Lego set or solving a puzzle and it is something that I really enjoy. I like putting structure into what is unstructured and undefined like problems that confront the business. I believe this is why business is interesting in the Philippines because there is always a way to do things differently," he says.

Consunji adds that the ability to brainstorm or toss ideas around and then coming up with a solution is what turns him on. This explains his preference to work in the business side of the conglomerate rather than the

CONSTRUCTION/ B2



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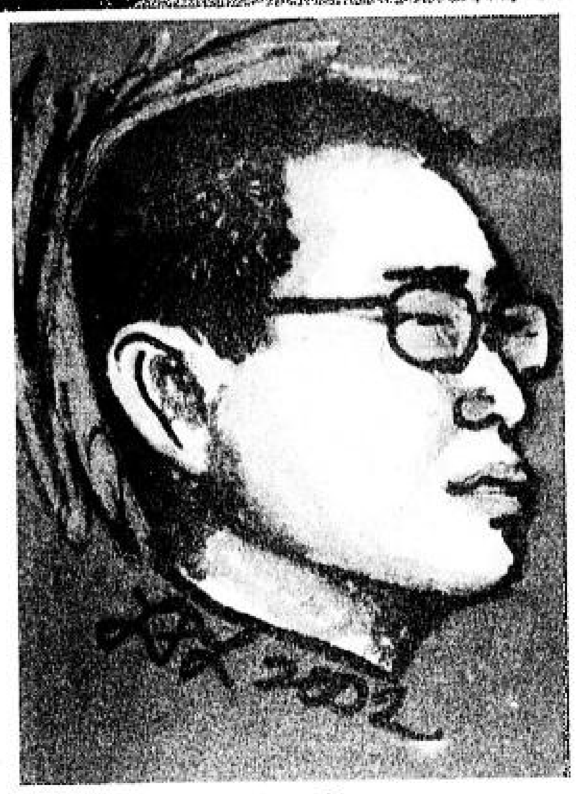
SundayBIZ

IN YOUR FACE

BY L.P. LEVISTE



FILIPINO-CHINESE businessman Jeffrey Cheng may not like to be in the news but he was thrust into the limelight when the controversy over the Naia III flagship project hit the headlines. One can only wonder when he would be able to retreat to a more quiet life

Construction firm heir did the rounds of junkyards before earning his place

From page B1

pure construction part of the business.

His style is a little different from his father, a former Public Works secretary, whose company is almost synonymous to the construction business. Consunji describes his father as "more focused and disciplined" unlike him who confesses to being bored by routine.

He, however, admits that getting turned on by grand ideas can lead to haphazard and reckless decisions.

"What we try to do is to create strengths and protect people against their own weaknesses. Of course that is not always possible," he says.

Consunji considers his failure to have predicted the real estate bust as his biggest mistake, which happened soon after DMCI Holdings went public in 1995.

"The signs were already there like the government was already in a deficit, interest rates were very low and then the banks' exposure to real estate was already up to 40 percent but people refused to look or they did not want to accept. We are now paying for the consequences. It is just like having a bad hangover," he says.

HAPPY Consunji family

DMCI Holdings was not spared by the real estate bust and had to endure some years of losses after it diversified into non-construction fields, but it is now in the black after a "slow, hard climb", emerging wiser from the painful experience.

"We are now transforming the company to make it more relevant. Before it was just a general construction company that goes through periods of feast and famine. It was also dependent on the business of others. What we are doing now is to make the firm more like a farming company which has a predictable harvest every year," he says.

DMCI, thus, has invested in urban housing through DMCI Homes and going into build-operate-transfer contracts for infrastructure projects.

"We want to make our own projects, develop our own competencies," he explains.

Consunji, however, says that it is easier to physically change the company, but much more difficult to change the employees' attitude or mindset so that they would welcome the changes that DMCI is going through.

"This is my enjoyable challenge now - try to change mind sets. I do it by constantly communicating with the people across the organization. It is hard but it is exciting," he says.

Looking at the bright side of the inevitable challenges keeps the 53-year-old executive from getting burned out. He also believes in combining work and play with no real boundary to separate the two.

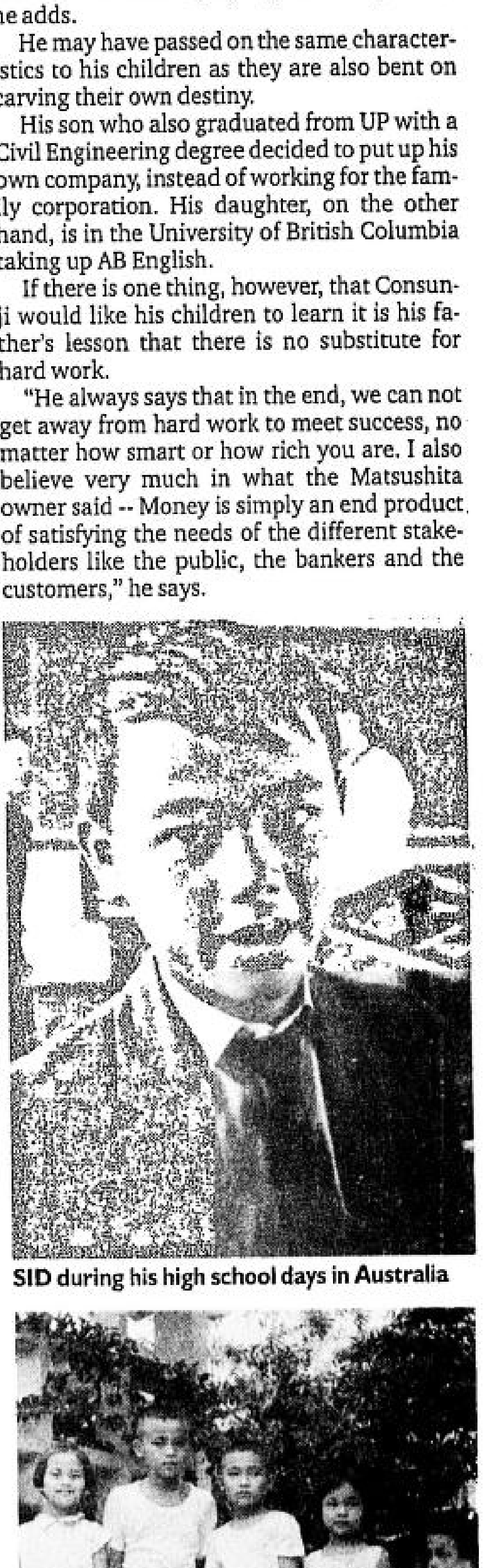
"I want work and play together like paella," he adds.

He may have passed on the same characteristics to his children as they are also bent on carving their own destiny.

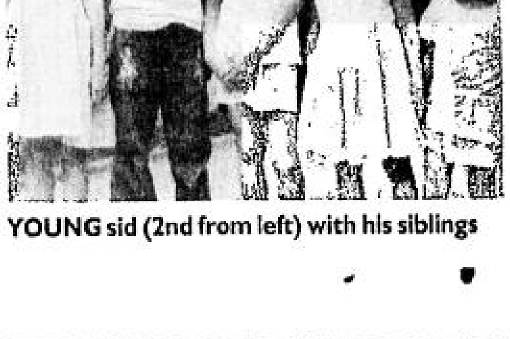
His son who also graduated from UP with a Civil Engineering degree decided to put up his own company, instead of working for the family corporation. His daughter, on the other hand, is in the University of British Columbia taking up AB English.

If there is one thing, however, that Consunji would like his children to learn it is his father's lesson that there is no substitute for hard work.

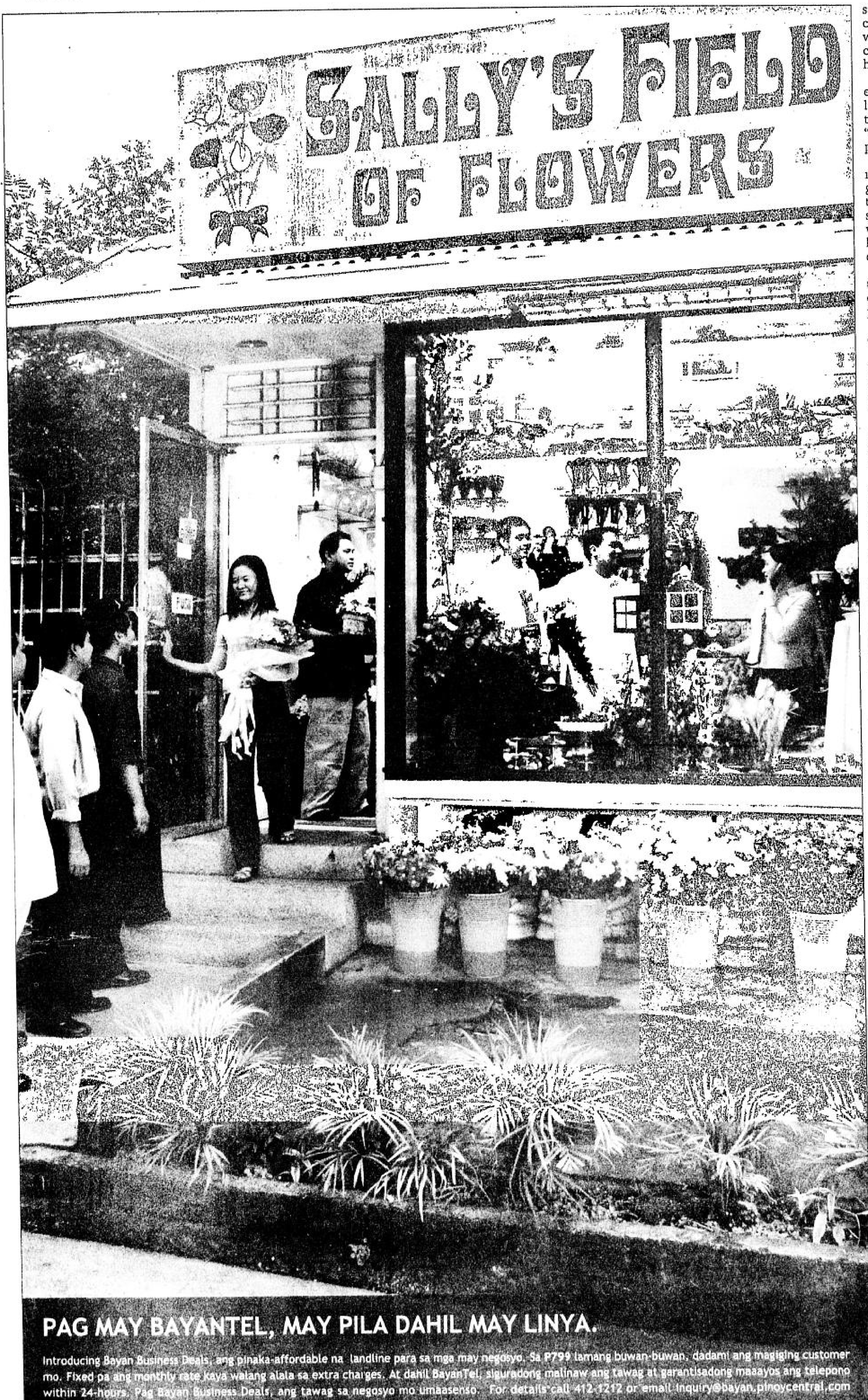
"He always says that in the end, we can not get away from hard work to meet success, no matter how smart or how rich you are. I also believe very much in what the Matsushita owner said -- Money is simply an end product of satisfying the needs of the different stakeholders like the public, the bankers and the customers," he says.



SID during his high school days in Australia



YOUNG sid (2nd from left) with his siblings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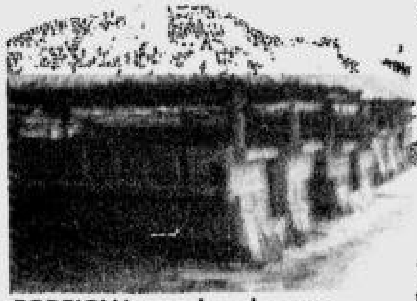
From basket weaving to building 'bahay kubo'

By Jo Clemente
PDI Central Luzon Desk

TARLAC CITY—His business may not carry big words like B2B or business to business in corporate parlance, but by definition, this entrepreneur provides instant solution to many a businessman's concerns and until recently even to government.

His product is inherent to Philippine culture and as Filipino as the bahay kubo because indeed it is the bahay kubo.



FOREIGN buyers have become frequent buyers of the bahay kubo.

And in this part, the bahay kubo or nipa hut is a commodity sold off the rack, by piece or in bulk, picked-up or delivered, assembled or knocked down.

At first, Rene Cayabyab, 36, thought that this spin-off product from his usual bamboo furniture and crafts would just be one decorative item to create a rustic ambiance in a rich man's garden but to his surprise, it wasn't just so.

Fact is, his major clients the last five years were restaurant and resort owners from north and south of Luzon and very recently even the Department of Social Welfare and Development that had to produce instant homes for the fire victims at Port Area in Manila.

Recently too, his bahay kubo went all the way to Korea and Australia.

Beginnings

PINOY ENTREPRENEUR

As a son of San Carlos City, then a small city in central Pangasinan, Cayabyab was born to a community traditionally known as basket and bilao weavers and everything else native.

But since his place is an interior town and outside the natural destination points where people converge, marketing their products would have to take a little more. For the more enterprising, like Cayabyab, this meant moving out of the place.

Cayabyab never went to a business school, hardly in college even, but logic would tell him that for his products to get attention, he should go to areas where there is high traffic.

But unlike most of San Carlos City's wandering traders who sell their goods from town to town on a horse driven karitela (horse carriage), Cayabyab opted for a little more permanency.

His first stop was Dau in Mabalacat, Pampanga, where he rented a stall for his baskets and bilao near a bamboo furniture shop.

Soon, he learned to make the bamboo furniture, too. When the owner decided to go back home to the Visayas, he took over the bamboo furniture business as well.

FROM BASKET/ B4

CAYABYAB site at the bahay kubo construction.

JO CLEMENTE

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- Flexible financing schemes of up to 60 mos.
- Exciting packages for cash buyers

* For M/T at 15% DP
** For M/T at 60 mos./50% DP

[illegible]
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* At 15% DP
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HIACE SUPER GRANDIA SRP: 1,198,000

LOW DOWNPAYMENT scheme

15%	134 700	91 861	63 198	50 111	35 847	28 025	25.011
20%	194,600	86,004	59,255	46,931	33,261	26,728	23,028
30%	314 400	75,254	51,848	41,065	29 103	23,387	20,150
40%	434 200	64,503	44,441	35,198	24 940	20,046	17,271
50%	554,000	53,753	37,034	29,332	20,788	16,705	14,380

LOW MONTHLY AMORTIZATION scheme

15%	179 700	87 642	60 433	47 961	34 339	27 684	23 916
20%	239 600	82.006	56 500	44 782	31,745	25 510	21,958
30%	359 400	71,255	49,093	38,925	27,587	22 169	19,079
40%	479,200	60,505	41,686	33,059	23,430	18,828	16,201
50%	599,000	49,754	34,280	27,192	19,272	15,457	13,332

COMBO PLAN

15%	154 700	90 075	61 969	49 155	35 164	28 374	24 524
20%	214,600	84,227	58,030	45,980	32,587	26,187	22,552
30%	334 400	73,477	50,624	40,114	28,430	22,846	19,674
40%	454,200	62,728	43,217	34,247	24,272	19,505	16,795
50%	574 000	51,975	35,810	28,381	20,114	16,164	13,917

HIACE GRANDIA SRP: 1,113,000

LOW DOWNPAYMENT scheme

15%	121,950	85,344	58,714	46,565	33,304	26,873	23,236
20%	177 600	79,902	55,051	43,601	30,901	24,832	21,394
30%	288 900	69,914	48,169	38,151	27,038	21,728	18,720
40%	400 200	59 927	41,288	32,701	23,176	18,624	16,046
50%	511,500	49,939	34,407	27,251	19,313	15,520	13,371

LOW MONTHLY AMORTIZATION scheme

15%	166 950	81 324	55 949	44 405	31 766	25,032	22 142
20%	222 600	75 904	52 296	41 467	29,385	23,614	20,324
30%	333 900	65,916	45,415	36,012	25,522	20,510	17,650
40%	445 200	55,928	38,533	30,561	21,660	17,406	14,975
50%	556,500	45,941	31,652	25,111	17,797	14,302	12,301

COMBO PLAN

15%	141 950	83 557	57 465	45 500	32 620	26,321	22 750
20%	197 600	78 125	53,826	42,650	30,227	24,290	20,919
30%	308 900	68,137	46,945	37,200	26,365	21,186	18,244
40%	420,200	58,150	40,064	31,750	22,502	18,082	15,570
50%	531,500	48,162	33,182	26,300	18,639	14,978	12,896

RAV4 A/T SRP: 1,350,000

LOW DOWNPAYMENT scheme

15%	157 500	103,516	71,216	56,460	40,395	32,595	28 184
20%	225,000	96,916	66,773	52,886	37,481	30,120	25,950
30%	360,000	84,602	58,476	46,275	32,796	26,355	22 706
40%	495,000	72,687	50,080	39,664	28 111	22,590	19,463
50%	630,000	60,573	41,733	33,053	23,426	18,825	16,219

LOW MONTHLY AMORTIZATION scheme

15%	202 500	99 497	68 451	54 319	38 857	31 354	27 090
20%	270 000	92 918	64,018	50,746	35,965	28,901	24,880
30%	405 000	80,804	55,672	44,135	31,280	25,136	21,630
40%	540 000	68,689	47,325	37,525	26,595	21,371	18,392
50%	675,000	56,574	38,978	30,914	21,909	17,606	15,148

COMBO PLAN

15%	177 500	101 730	69 987	55 513	39 712	32 044	27 698
20%	245,000	95,139	65,549	51,935	36,807	29,758	25,474
30%	380,000	83,025	57,202	45,324	32,122	25,813	22,231
40%	515 000	70,910	48,855	38,713	27,437	22,048	18,987
50%	650,000	58,796	40,509	32,103	22,752	18,283	15,743

RAV4 M/T SRP: 1,315,000

LOW DOWNPAYMENT scheme

15%	152,250	100 833	69,370	55,005	39,346	31,750	27,453
20%	218,000	94,404	65,042	51,514	36,509	29,339	25,277
30%	349,500	82,603	56,911	45,075	31,946	25,671	22,118
40%	481,000	70,803	48,781	38,636	27,382	22,004	18,598
50%	612,500	59,002	40,651	32,197	22,818	18,337	15,798

LOW MONTHLY AMORTIZATION scheme

15%	197 250	96,813	66,605	52,855	37,810	30,509	26,359
20%	263,000	90,405	62,287	49,375	34,993	28,120	24,207
30%	394,500	78,605	54,157	42,936	30,430	24,453	21,047
40%	526,000	66,805	46,027	36,496	25,866	20,786	17,887
50%	657,500	55,004	37,896	30,057	21,302	17,116	14,728

COMBO PLAN

15%	172 250	99,046	68,141	54,049	38,665	31,198	26,967
20%	238,000	92,627	63,817	50,584	35,836	28,797	24,801
30%	369,500	80,826	55,687	44,124	31,272	25,130	21,642
40%	501 000	69,026	47,557	37,685	26,708	21,463	18,482
50%	632,500	57,225	39,127	31,246	22,145	17,795	15,322

HILUX SR5 SRP: 1,093,000

LOW DOWNPAYMENT scheme

15%	118,950	83,810	57,659	45,719	32,705	26,390	22,819
20%	173 600	78,466	54 061	42,818	30,346	24,386	21,010
30%	282 900	69,658	47 304	37,465	26,553	21,338	18,384
40%	392 200	58 850	40,546	32,113	22 759	18,289	15,757
50%	501 500	49,041	33,788	26 761	18,966	15,241	13,131

LOW MONTHLY AMORTIZATION scheme

15%	163 950	79,791	54 894	43,569	31 167	25 149	21 724
20%	218,600	74,468	51 307	40,678	28,830	23,167	19,939
30%	327,900	64,660	44,549	35,326	25,036	20,119	17,313
40%	437 200	54 852	37 791	29,974	21,243	17,071	14,687
50%	546,500	45,043	31,034	24,622	17,450	14,023	12,061

COMBO PLAN

15%	138 950	82,024	56 430	44 763	32 022	25,838	22 337
20%	193,600	76,689	52 837	41 867	29,672	23,844	20,534
30%	302,900	66,661	46,079	36,516	25,879	20,756	17,908
40%	412 200	57,073	39,322	31,162	22,066	17,748	15,282
50%	521,500	47,264	32,564	25,810	18,292	14,700	12,655

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Stroll in mall yields venture that makes dreams come true

RAYA Marcelo as Snow White.

THEMED photography makes photos more exciting.

COUPLE Dedet and Monchit Santos stumbled on the idea of themed photography while strolling in a mall five years ago. They sat on the idea for years waiting for the right time to launch the service in the Philippines.

Last year, with a small capital, a renewed confidence on the economy, prayers and a lot of guts, the couple with their brother in law, Andy Adan, finally started the business. Little did they know that the idea they've been sitting on for years would become a hit.

The concept of themed photography, where the subject is in costume replete with props and accessories, started when Anne Geddes came up with photos and calendars of infants dressed as angels, bees, and fairies in the early 1990's.

The idea was picked up by a lot of photo studios abroad but it was only last year that a studio was launched in the country.

Sweet Dreams photography in San Juan offers photo packages that can make both adults and kids look like Little Angels, Glamour Girls, Fairies, Mermaids, Snow White, Cinderella, Rock and Roll Drummers, Cowboys and Firemen.

They come up with new themes every four months to make sure that clients have a lot to choose from. Owner Dedet Santos says, "We consider ourselves as our stiffest competitor so we always strive to better our service for our clients."

"We make sure that both kids and parents are happy with the results when they leave our place," Dedet adds.

Word of mouth has created clients from as far as Bacolod.

Starting from scratch

The couple relates that the idea for Sweet Dreams began in 1997 at about the same time they learned that their first born, Lauren Meniya, had cerebral palsy. With the help of their family and friends, they were able to pool resources to send Lauren abroad for medical treatment.

On their way to Lauren's regular medical checkup one day, they chanced upon a photographer's booth where babies posed as little angels.

Dedet shares that with Lauren's medical bills piling up then, they were on the lookout for a good business venture since they badly needed to augment their income.

"When I saw the booth, it's as if something came over me and I immediately felt that it was God's way of reminding us how fortunate we are to have Lauren as our baby. I knew then that this is the business for us, since we have always wanted a business that would not only bring profit for us but happiness as well to our fellow parents, considering the situation we were in at that time," she adds.

The incident struck the couple so much that they kept it in their mind even though they were into other business ventures before, like clothing overruns and soft drink distribution.

Dedet points out that they "never had doubts about it because we knew that there is a market for themed photography in the country. In fact, right after Lauren's first picture was taken, her neurologist liked it so much that she framed it and put it in her clinic. Soon enough, we got calls from fellow parents asking where that picture was taken, and we hadn't even started the business yet."

In 2001, right after People Power II, the couple, with no staff to assist them and armed only with their lifetime savings of over P100,000, finally launched the idea they had been sitting on for years.

Their first studio was the kids' playroom in their house in Makati. They bought the necessary equipment and added toys, rubber mats and colorful displays so the kids would not be bored while shooting.

After only five months, business started to pick up until their kids' playroom could not accommodate their customers anymore. They moved to a bigger studio in San Juan.

Dedet admits that Sweet Dreams needs creativity and up-to-date technology to flourish, so they themselves continually attend workshops, research, and invest on numerous books to brush up with current trends to make sure that every photograph they shoot is of world-class quality.

Dedet and Monchit are hands-on. They personally take the photos of clients in the studio. They also provide the costumes, props and the appropriate accessories of their clients.

Since Sweet Dreams uses digital photography, clients can see the pictures right away and choose the spots to be processed.

Downstream business

Dedet explains that Sweet Dreams also offers other services aside from themed photography.

They take pictures of adults in regular setups (portraits, debutantes, family portraits, graduation, weddings, baptism or any other occasion) as well as product and commercial photography. Prices start from as low as P800.

Of late, Sweet Dreams has also expanded to printing the photos onto puzzles, tiles, mouse pads, key chains, clocks, plaques, greeting cards, Christmas ornaments, mugs and almost any other surface you can think of.

They also pride themselves as the only manufacturer of Handmade Photo quilt in the country. Their photo or memory quilt is a favorite gift item which comes in different sizes from throw pillows, wall hangings and different comforter bed sizes. The client just has to gather the pictures he or she wants to be included in the quilt and Sweet Dreams takes care of the rest. The memory quilt is the perfect gift for grandparents and parents celebrating their anniversary since it brings back memories that have been treasured for a long time.

Dedet also reveals that Sweet Dreams will come out with photo bags soon, with photos of clients' printed onto bags. A photography class is also in the works as well as a new studio by early next year.

For a business idea that started while strolling in a mall, Dedet, Monchit and Andy's Sweet Dreams has become a dream come true not only for them, but for countless people whose lives they have touched through their themed photographs.

(Sweet Dreams photography is located at Madison Square Ortigas cor. Madison St., San Juan, Metro Manila. Tel nos. 723-2017; 0917-8453767and 0917-4805111.)

Top businessmen and who's who attend mall's opening

SM City Cagayan de Oro recently opened amid a mix of local culture and tradition, world-class performances and an overwhelming response from shoppers from the City of Golden Friendship.

Bukidnon's Higaonon tribesmen from the Eco-Tourism village provided local color during the opening rites. Dressed in their exquisite costumes and headdresses, they wowed the guests with their traditional dance, as SM's Hans T. Sy sounded the tribe's brass gong to signal the mall's opening.

As Northern Mindanao is known for its beautiful flowers, a vine cutting, instead of ribbon cutting ceremony, was held.

Cagayan de Oro Mayor Vicente Yap Emano, Congressman Constantino Jaraula and Archbishop Jesus Tuquib shared honors cutting the elegant arrangement of orchids and other tropical flowers.

They were joined by SM's Tessie Sy-Coson, Hans T. Sy and Herbert T. Sy.

Misamis Oriental Gov. Antonio Calignin was among the prominent Cagayanons present during the occasion.

Others included Ombra Gandamra, regional director of the Office of Muslim Affairs; Dorothy Jane Pabayo, regional director of the Department of Tourism; and former Congresswoman Benedicta Roa.

The local business sector was also well represented: Guillermo Luchangco, chair and CEO of the ICCP Group of Companies; Jose Belen, former president of the Cagayan de Oro Chamber of Commerce; Arthur Sanvictores of the CDO Chamber of Commerce.

Eloisa Fernan, wife of the late Senate President Marcelo Fernan and whose mother is also from Cagayan de Oro, flew in from Cebu to attend the event.

After a Mass and blessing, guests were also treated to a concert featuring world-class Filipino artists Robert Sena, Bimbo Cerrudo, Jenine Desiderio, Pinky Marquez and Lynn Sherman.

The mall opened its doors to the public on the following day with SM's Tessie Sy-Coson and Hans T. Sy opening the door—in the SM tradition—to the first wave of customers. The crowds quickly filled the mall and continued pouring the whole day, prompting it to move its closing hours way beyond its designated time.

The 13th SM Supermall has 56,000 square meters in its floor area, three levels and 600 parking slots.

When completed, SM City Cagayan de Oro will also have about 100 shops and restaurants, including shoe stores, fashion boutiques, jewelry stores, sports shops, home furnishings stores, children's shops and service centers. It also has a row of IT stores—telecom centers, computer stores, business centers and internet cafés.

Next week, another mall, SM Bicutan, is set to open.

MISAMIS Oriental Gov. Antonio Calingin and Merle Adaza at the SM City Cagayan de Oro inauguration.

OFFICE of Muslim Affairs Regional Director Ombra Gandamra and wife at the mall's blessing

JOSE Belen, former president of the Cagayan de Oro Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and Arthur Sanvictores of the OroChamber.

CAGAYAN de Oro's Guillermo Luchangco, ICCP Group of Companies chair and CEO.

CARMEN Fortich of Siam Broadcasting and Terry Sarraga, also a member of the prominent Fortich family.

REP. Constantino Jaraulo, Archbishop Jesus Taquib, with SM's Hans and Herbert Sy.

LEADING Cagayan de Oro civic leader Jess Dingcong, with wife Ganging of the prominent Chavez clan.

CORSO Guerlani Bistro Café owner Jimboy Muñoz.

SM president Teresita Sy-Coson and Cgayan de Oro Mayor Vicente Emano get ready for the ceremonial coin-throwing.

PROMINENT Cagayanons Consuelo and Pamela Muñoz.

SM's 13th supermall, SM City Cagayan de Oro.

CROWDS quickly filled the mall on opening day.

From basket weaving to building 'bahay kubo'

From page B3

He also decided to pull out of Mabalacat and move closer to Pangasinan. His choice is Tarlac City.

Tarlac is a natural showroom because it is strategically located between Manila and Baguio City where people come and go.

It was during a delivery to Bulacan when Cayabyab saw a nipa hut by the roadside. He thought of doing the *bahay kubo* as an item for sale.

With good knowledge on the characteristics and sourcing of indigenous materials like bamboo and nipa, Cayabyab told himself then, "*kaya ko 'to* (I can do it)" and went on to explore and experiment on the item.

It wasn't all smooth sailing for Cayabyab. "*May panahon na nahirapan din kami at halos wala na lahat pero pinilit lang na magsimula ulit* (There were times we were all washed up but we persisted)," he said.

Twenty years in the native crafts business and five years in selling *bahay kubo*, Cayabyab now has 10 people working for him building the native houses. (A person with average skill will take a week to build one by himself.) These houses had already bought for him a truck, which he now uses for delivery of his goods and for hauling raw materials.

Curiosity brings people to his place when they see a line of nipa huts by the roadside along the MacArthur Highway at Barangay San Rafael in Tarlac City.

A resort owner in Batangas who was just passing by on his way to Baguio stopped to take a look and then he bought seven units of *bahay kubo*.

A few months after, the man came back for more. Later, other resort owners from Southern Luzon came. Other clients like restaurant owners also came and soon, Cayabyab was able to develop various types of *bahay kubo* that cater to the requirements of these business people.

Now he has a single room type, a nipa hut with a small veranda for receiving visitors, a *banguera* for washing and a bedroom. This costs about P25,000 per unit.

Cayabyab also sells *bahay kubo* with an open veranda, mostly for garden and restaurant use. This costs from P5,500 to P15,000 based on the size.

A hut that can accommodate four people costs P5,500 while a hut that can carry nine people sells at P7,000. These units are the more fast-moving types specially for those in the food and restaurant business who wish to have a garden setting. Instead of constructing air-conditioned dining areas with table settings, the huts are instant structures.

This year, Cayabyab got an order for more than 100 units of the complete single room type from the DSWD. These units will be used for what it was originally conceived—dwellings—and instant homes for the fire victims at Port Area in Manila.

Cayabyab said he has also foreign buyers. A Korean has ordered 20 units of *bahay kubo*. These, however, were knocked down, each part was labeled and identified with instructions on how to put the pieces together.

Cayabyab said an Australian also bought a few units and brought them home to his country.

Has he run out of materials? Not really, Cayabyab said. His bamboos, he said, come from nearby Capas town while his nipa (used for roofs) come from Pangasinan.

The bigger and more robust bamboos are used for the furniture while the thinner and longer ones are used for various parts of the huts.

As Ford Foundation . . .

From page B16

the reforms that have already been started after Ford's doors have closed.

So the likes of Ateneo de Manila University president Fr. Bienvenido Nebres, Bulacan Gov. Josefina dela Cruz, Nueva Vizcaya Gov. Rodolfo Agbayani, Naga City Mayor Jesse Robredo, Dr. Tonton Torralba of the University of Asia and the Pacific, noted museum advocates John Silva, Maribel Ongpin and Cristina Yuson-Lim decided to band together and form Synergeia.

Synergeia's founding members count 14 institutions and 24 individuals that share a passion for reforms in basic education. They are educators, former and incumbent local and national government officials, and reformers, wanting to "build a constituency" to promote equitable access to quality education.

The vision of Synergeia is "to be a catalyst for reforms that will establish quality basic education as a universal right and as a foundation for economic development and poverty alleviation".

Guevara said Synergeia is "more than a talkshop".

Members of Synergeia have implemented 27 Ford-funded education programs that have already successfully demonstrated that "community collaboration, bottom-to-top participation, multi-stakeholdership and systemic reforms in basic education work," she said.

- Test scores of children in reading have gone up from 49 percent to 75 percent.
- Proficiency levels in Mathematics have increased from 50 percent to 75 percent.
- Books were produced at 1/4 the central government cost.
- The Special Education Fund budget can be enacted with strong community participation where a multi-sectoral assembly decides where the tax money should be spent.
- More than a thousand school dropouts from Cotabato are enrolled in the Alternative Home Education Program.
- Almost 2,500 children and their parents from 37 disadvantaged communities have participated in reading programs through the Mobile Library.
- Almost all children from targeted communities in Cotabato are enrolled in grade one. Dropout rate has dropped to two percent.

The group's main challenge is to continue and scale up the reforms its members have initiated even with little funding support from the foreign donor.

Synergeia's birth comes at a crucial time when the country is facing a crippling crisis in education, said Ms. Guevara.

Recent government statistics show that two out of 10 children drop out of school when they reach Grade 2, while only seven out of 10 students complete their elementary schooling. The problem is more serious in Mindanao where only three out of 10 students who enter the public school system finish elementary.

Filipino students also ranked third from the bottom in the Third International Mathematics and Science test administered in 1999 to 13-year old children from 54 countries. Among their peers in Asia, Filipino students scored the lowest in these subjects.

Meanwhile, national achievement tests administered by the Department of Education revealed that elementary school pupils could only correctly answer less than half of the examination questions.

Synergeia aims to improve access of students to quality education through the following approaches:

- A comprehensive and sustained improvement of the teaching-learning system: teacher-training, instructional materials, parent-support system, performance evaluation, education finance, governance; and
- Collaboration built on a partnership of various stakeholders: local governments, the DepEd, parents and the private sector.

Through their programs, members of Synergeia are demonstrating that the reform path in education need not start from the top. They aim to show that opening the school system to active partnerships can make education work.

The founding member institutions of Synergeia are: the Ateneo de Manila University; the provincial governments of Bulacan and Nueva Vizcaya; the city governments of San Fernando, Pampanga and Naga City; Cahbriba Alternative School Foundation of Dr. and Mrs. Cielito Habito; the Cartwheel Foundation; Venture for Fund Raising Foundation; Manuel T. Sia Development Foundation; Marcellin Foundation; Museo Pambata Foundation; Notre Dame Business Resource Center; Payatas Community Learning Center; and the Public Finance Institute of the Philippines.

(Sheila Samonte-Pesayco, Founding member, Synergeia)

Are sales of malternatives losing their famous fizz?

NEW YORK—Malternatives—those fruity drinks with famous hard liquor brand labels like Smirnoff, Bacardi and Captain Morgan—may be heading the way of the wine cooler.

Once seen as the next big thing, the malt-based alternatives with roughly the same alcohol content as beer have lost a bit of fizz in the US market.

The initial success of Diageo Plc's Smirnoff Ice in 2001 spawned a legion of similar drinks, as top US brewers Anheuser-Busch Cos. Inc. and SAB-Miller Plc's Miller Brewing Co. teamed up with major spirits makers, like Allied Domecq.

The malt-based drinks, containing nary a drop of their namesake distilled spirits, became one of the hottest-selling drinks categories since the wine coolers made famous in the 1980s by brands such as Bartles & Jaymes.

Other malternatives such as Bacardi Silver from Anheuser-Busch and Bacardi, Sauza Diablo and Stolichnaya's Citrona from Miller and Allied Domecq, and Jack Daniel's Original Hard Cola from Miller and Brown-Forman joined the pack in 2002.

But after a surge of sales from consumers eager to try the drinks, boosting the category's share to about 4 percent of the mammoth market for beer at US supermarkets, they are losing ground.

Growth 'slowed very significantly'

Malternatives' market share fell by about a third from the summer to 2.7 percent in supermarkets for the four weeks ended Nov. 3, according to Morgan Stanley beverage analyst Bill Pecoriello, citing data from Information Resources Inc.

"The growth of the malt beverage category has slowed very significantly," Allied Domecq CEO Phillip Bowman said in a recent interview. "It certainly hasn't lived up to anyone's expectations regarding growth."

Miller Brewing, Allied Domecq's partner on two malternatives, is sticking with the category even though it admits growth has slowed in the United States.

"I think the category has legs," Miller CEO John Bowlin told Reuters. "I project over the next two or three years the category could go from its current 3 to 3-1/2 percent to 4, 4-1/2 percent ... on a volume basis."

The drinks account for a higher percent on a dollar basis than on volume since they are pricier than mainstay beers.

Diageo holds that the category is stronger than ever, and that the recent drop-off belies solid year-over-year increases.

"From our perspective ... the malternative segment (is) still growing robustly," said Diageo spokesperson Gary Galanis. Asked if his company's expectations for the category have changed, Galanis said, "not particularly." The category's biggest flop, one some industry executives say hurt the entire group, was Diageo's Captain Morgan Gold, which failed to match even a sliver of Smirnoff Ice's success. Diageo pulled the drink from shelves in late October after its launch in May.

"When we introduced the brand, we were a bit quick to get it to market," Galanis said.

Malternatives were seen not only as a hot new category, but as a perfect marketing tool. Since hard liquor ads are banned from network television, the malternatives could introduce consumers to brands like Smirnoff and Captain Morgan, getting a "halo" advertising effect.

"The spirits companies get some kind of benefit just by putting their name on the tube," said Benj Steinman, editor of Beer Marketer's Insights. "I think that was in some ways their number one objective."

Going the way of the wine cooler?

Fads like wine coolers and ice beers faded away into obscurity and minuscule sales. The jury is still out on whether malternatives will follow them down that path.

One key indicator will be whether drink makers pull the plug on more brands, or continue to roll out new products.

Diageo is expected to introduce a line extension on the Smirnoff name next year, while another drink with a Bacardi name may be in the works from Bacardi and Anheuser-Busch.

"They're still going to have quite an extended half-life.

It's not something that's here today, gone tomorrow, with the exception of individual brands that are failures, like Captain Morgan Gold or Vibe," Steinman said.

Adolph Coors Co., an originator of the flavored malt beverage category with Zima in 1992, pulled the plug on its malt drink Vibe earlier this fall after several months of testing.

With other malternative brands peaking over the past few months, Coors no longer saw sufficient potential for the brand, a spokesperson said.

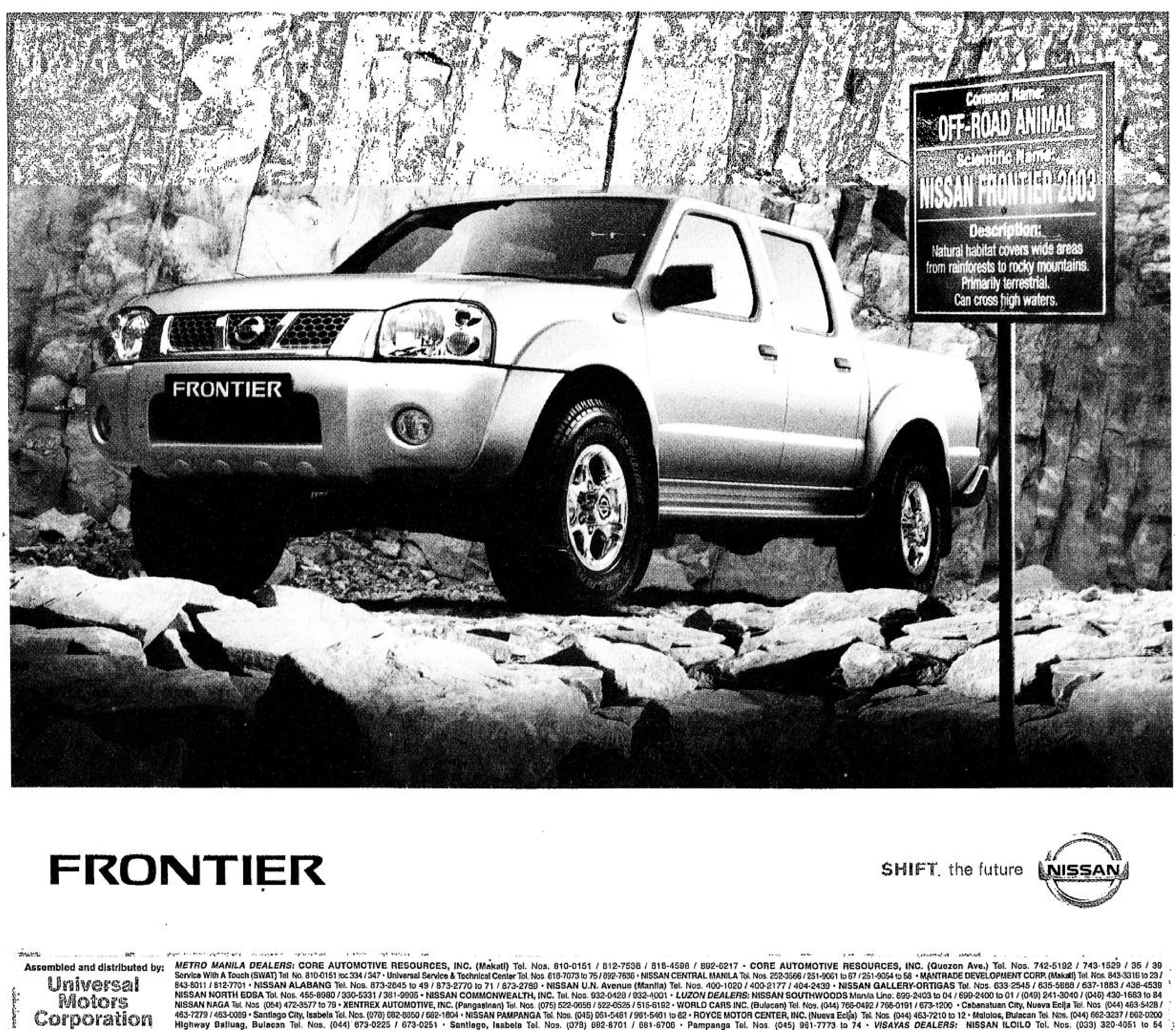
New next big thing?

A few brewers have moved toward what some industry watchers are calling the newest next big thing: niche light beers like the low-carbohydrate Michelob Ultra from Anheuser-Busch and high-end Sam Adams Light from Boston Beer Co. Inc.

Recent entry Michelob Ultra, popular with those following low-carb diets, already has 0.9 share of the market, surpassing Smirnoff Ice's current share, Pecoriello said. Smirnoff Ice had more than 1 percent of the market in 2001.

Sam Adams Light has a bit less than 0.2 share, he said.

"It's selling extremely well, and I think we've discovered that there is a market for quality light beers," said Jim Koch, founder and chair of Boston Beer. *Reuters*



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NATIONAL EDITION

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Mr. Romy V. Libad
Asst. Logistics Manager
UCC La Union Plant
Bgy. Quirino, Bacnotan, La Union
Tel. No.: 072-888-56-74

Mr. Robert D. Rodriguez
Distribution Unit Head
UCC Bulacan Plant
Bo. Matictic, Norzagaray, Bulacan
Tel. No.: (02) 732-23-92

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   ☑ male, with experience, preferably with Drivers License and willing to travel
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   ☑ college level, can drive motorcycle
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HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT SERVICE of the DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY

is in search of the following:

1. **Division Chief for Training & Development Division (HRMO V-3)**
   Must be:
   - a Masteral Degree Holder in either Psychology, Management, Sociology
   - a CSC Professional Eligible
   - with 4 years relevant experience involving management and supervision
   - with 24 hours training in management and supervision
2. **Human Resource Mngt. Off'rs II for Manpower Planning and Evaluation Division, and, Training Development Division (HRMO II-5,7 & 9)**
   Must be:
   - a Bachelor's Degree Holder in either Psychology, Sociology, Communication
   - a CSC Professional Eligible
   - with at least 1 year relevant experience in either recruitment and selection, performance appraisal, conducting/facilitating training programs, organizational development program, program management
   - with 4 hours relevant training
3. **Human Resource Mngt. Off'rs I for Manpower Planning and Evaluation Division, and, Training Development Division (HRMO I-2,3 & 4)**
   Must be:
   - a Bachelor's Degree Holder in either Psychology, Sociology, Communication
   - a CSC Professional Eligible

There is preference to individuals with:

- *mastery in facilitating learning for organization*
- *skill in transacting with a multifaceted organization requiring various interventions*
- *insatiable capacity for learning new and untried things*
- *joyfulness in going about one's work & high service orientation*
- *stamina at all times, in predictable and unpredictable circumstances*
- *willingness to travel in the Regions of the Philippines*
- *skill in computer applications*

Interested applicants may submit the following to the Director, Human Resource Development Service, Department of Trade and Industry at 361 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City or e-mail at hrds@dti.gov.ph

1. Application Letter
2. Comprehensive Resume
3. Copy of Transcript of Records
4. Copy of CS Professional Eligibility
5. 2 x 2 ID picture

Previous applicants need not apply.

Inquirer--Nov, 24, 2002

Plan is a humanitarian, child focused, international, non-governmental organization. Worldwide, Plan works in 45 developing countries. In the Philippines, Plan works directly with around 600 barangays, in 15 rural Programme Units, situated in Luzon and the Visayas. Opening of Mindanao programme areas is underway.

Plan works with children, families, communities, GO and NGO partners to achieve lasting improvements in the quality of life of disadvantaged children through the implementation of integrated child-centered community development programmes. Education is a key area of implementation. Plan intends to hire a:

Plan
Be a part of it.

TECHNICAL COORDINATOR FOR LEARNING

The Technical Coordinator for Learning will provide support to the Program Units in the development and management of education-related activities. The main focus of Plan's Learning Program is support to Early Childhood Care and Development and Elementary Education. Areas for future development are non-formal education for children and adults. Learning interventions are integrated with those in health, livelihood, habitat and the promotion of Child Rights.

Responsibilities of the position include:

- Support to the Program Units in program development, including program design, implementation, establishment of monitoring and evaluation systems, and integration with programs in other areas, particularly health
- Staff training
- Networking and coordination with GOs and NGOs at national level
- Participation in the work of the Country Program Team
- Development of education-related project proposals and supervision of education-related grant-funded projects

The successful candidate will be based at the Country Office in Manila, thought consideration may also be given to candidates who prefer to be based in Cebu. He/she can expect to travel within the Philippines for up to 50% of the time and occasionally be sent on international missions. He/she will report to the Program Support Manager.

Required qualifications:

- Relevant university degree or its equivalent
- At least 3 years in the management of education-related programs, some of which should be preferably have been spend with NGOs
  Experience with interactive learning methods and working directly with groups of children and adolescents
  Experience with primary and secondary education work such as curriculum development, development of learning methods etc.
  Experience in participatory approaches and PRA
- Excellent facilitation and training skills
- Good conceptual skills and demonstrable writing and verbal communications skills in English and Tagalog. Visayan would also be an advantage
  Ability to work both in a team and independently

A competitive remuneration package plus a career growth opportunity with one of the world's largest international development agencies await the successful candidate.

Interested applicants are requested to submit their letter of application with their comprehensive resume not later than December 8, 2002 addressed to:

The Personnel Administrative Assistant
Plan Philippines
MCPO Box 1875 Makati City, 1258
e-mail: rowena.kuan@plan-international.org

Only qualified applicants will be notified.

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3) Transcript of Records (Xerox)
4) Board Exam Result (Xerox)
5) PRC License (Xerox)
6) Baptismal Certificate (Xerox)
7) Certificate of Employment from Previous Employer/s (if any).

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WWF, *one of the world's leading independent conservation organisations, with a global network active in 100 countries is in need of the following project personnel for the:*

Northern Sierra Madre Natural Park Conservation and Development Project (NSMNPCDP - Phase 2), a project funded by the Royal Netherlands Embassy in Manila

PROJECT MANAGER. He/she shall be responsible for the overall management of the project including the mobilization of all project inputs, supervision over project staff, consultants and contractors. The Manager is also responsible for meeting project obligations under the project. The Manager shall perform a liaison role with the DENR-PASU, other national government agencies, LGUs, NGOs/POs, academic and research institutions and project partners.
Qualification Requirements: Postgraduate degree in natural resources management or related discipline with at least 10 years professional experience, Knowledge and experience on the implementation of PA Management and the NIPAS Law and other relevant laws; Excellent track record and experience in project management, coordination and preferably of conservation/natural resource management projects;

NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT SPECIALIST. He/she shall provide technical support to the Project Manager and staff especially concerning natural resources management; Coordinate the provision of the required technical inputs, reviewing and finalizing the Terms of Reference and reviewing the outputs of the Technical Assistance and sub-contractors.
Qualification Requirements: Postgraduate degree in natural resources management with at least 10 years professional experience; Knowledge and experience in the implementation of the NIPAS Law and other relevant laws; Excellent track record and experience in project management, coordination and preferably of conservation/natural resource management projects

COASTAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT & CONSERVATION SPECIALIST. He/She will be responsible for providing for the overall framework for advising and developing capacity among project staff and partners on coastal and marine conservation and ensuring high standards of quality of execution and implementation of conservation and management of coastal and marine ecosystems He/she will design and implement various pilot projects and assist in setting up biological and socio-economic impact monitoring system.
Qualification Requirements: Postgraduate degree in marine science or coastal resources management with at least 10 years professional experience; Knowledge and experience in the implementation of the NIPAS Law and other relevant laws; Excellent track record and experience in project management, coordination and preferably of marine conservation/ coastal resources management projects.

ECOLOGIST. He/She shall be responsible for providing for the overall framework for species conservation, advising on species conservation, developing capacity among Project staff and partners on species conservation and management including the planning and implementation of species conservation action plans. He/she will set up species research and monitoring systems, develop species conservation action plans with local stakeholders, training staff counterparts and local leaders.
Qualification Requirements: Postgraduate degree in marine biology with at least 10 years professional experience; Knowledge and experience in the implementation of the NIPAS Law and other relevant laws; Postgraduate degree in marine science or coastal resources management with at least 10 years professional experience; Knowledge and experience in the implementation of the NIPAS Law and other relevant laws; Excellent track record and experience in project management, coordination, preferably, of species research and monitoring and conservation projects.

IRRIGATION SPECIALIST He/She shall have the overall responsibility for the Project-Supported Communal Irrigation Projects (CIPS) towards maximizing their irrigation function. The work generally shall focus upon construction of structures and on the water distribution system which shall require close coordination with those involved in each CIP
Qualification Requirements: Postgraduate degree in Agricultural Engineering or Engineering with at least 10 years professional experience; Knowledge and experience in the implementation of the NIPAS Law and other relevant laws; Excellent track record and experience in project management, coordination, preferably, of research and monitoring and conservation projects.

BOTANIST. He/She shall serve as the focal person in the implementation of project work element on floral and herbal research and monitoring to generate information and appropriate technologies and implementing guides to support project management, protection and livelihood activities
Qualification Requirements: Postgraduate degree in Botany or Plant Taxonomy with at least 10 years professional experience; Knowledge and experience in the implementation of the NIPAS Law and other relevant laws; Excellent track record and experience in species research, monitoring and conservation projects.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SPECIALIST. He/She shall have the overall responsibility for the Project supported community organizing and grassroots organization's organizational, management and development concerns He/she shall exercise close coordination/consultation with communities as well as with LGUs, NGOs/P0s, DENR-PASU, academic and research institutions.
Qualification Requirements: Postgraduate degree in development management and community development with 10 years professional project development and management experience and relevant training; Knowledge and experience in the implementation of the NIPAS Law and other relevant laws; Excellent track record and experience in project management, coordination, and conservation projects.

AGRICULTURIST. He/She shall be responsible for all improvement of agricultural and farming systems that are supported by the Project. This shall include a comprehensive review of the current agricultural and farming systems and consider options for its improvement.
Qualification Requirements: Postgraduate degree in Agriculture with at least 10 years professional experience Excellent track record and experience in agricultural /farming systems and coordination preferably of conservation/natural resources management projects; Can work well with farmers, LGUs, NGO's /PO's and national government agencies

IEC/TRAINING SPECIALIST. He/She shall be responsible for all IEC and training related activities of all the components and sub-components of the Project
Qualification Requirements: Postgraduate degree in development communications, communication arts, or related fields; At least 10 years experience in designing and implementing information-education-communications strategy and awareness campaigns.

AREA MANAGERS. He/She shall provide overall management and direction in the implementation of the NSMNP program plans and activities in the Field Station.
Qualification Requirements: Bachelor's degree in natural resources management or related discipline with at least 5 years excellent track record and experience in project management and coordination, preferably of conservation / natural resource management projects; knowledge and experience in the implementation of the PA Management and relevant laws such as NIPAS Law, Fisheries code, IPRA, and local Government Code; ability to effectively; excellent communication skills, knowledge of local dialect is desirable; those with published works in peer-reviewed journals preferred

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER. He/She shall be responsible for the project accounting, efficient financial monitoring and maintenance of accurate financial records as well as in ensuring compliance with administrative and HR policies.
Qualification Requirements: Bachelor's degree in Accounting, preferably CPA.; at least 10 years experience in finance and administrative work, 4 years of which should be in a supervisory/managerial level, with experience in NGO work and in handling donor funds, good oral and written communication skills, familiar with accounting computer software, excellent decision-making skills.

Other Vacancies Coastal Resource Management Associate, Environmental Land Use Planning Specialist, Wildlife Biologist, Indigenous People Associate, IEC Associate, Micro-Enterprise Specialist, Enforcement Specialist

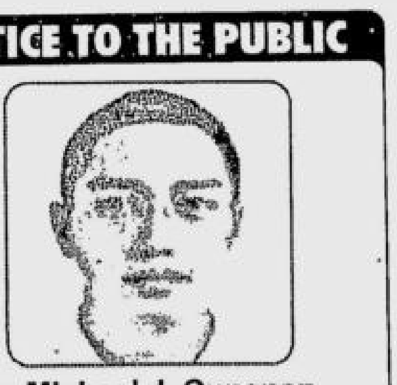
All applicants must have the ability to effectively work in high - calibre cross-functional Project Team and coordinate a large, multi-stakeholder Project; Excellent communication skills both English and Pilipino, knowledge of local dialect is desirable. All positions are field -based. Potential candidates must be willing to stay in the project site and /or field stations (Palanan, San Mariano, Dinapigue, Maconacon-Divilacan)

Interested parties are advised to submit their curriculum vitae with latest 2x2 photo and other pertinent documents to:

MS. ALMA M. INOCENTES, HRD Manager
KABANG KALIKASAN NG PILIPINAS
LBI Bldg., 57 Kalayaan Ave., Diliman, Quezon City 1101

Deadline for submission is on December 6, 2002. We will respond to qualified candidates only.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC



Mr. Michael J. Cunanan

Notice is hereby given that MICHAEL J. CUNANAN, whose picture appears above, has pending Orders of Arrest issued by the Regional Trial Court of Angeles City, Branch 36, for 14 counts of qualified theft committed against GOLDEN ABC, INC. ("Company"), docketed as Criminal Case Nos. 02-542 to 02-555.

Mr. Cunanan has ceased to be connected with the company since 21 June 2001 and any transaction entered into by him, for and in behalf of the company, after such date shall not be honored.

Any information on the present whereabouts of Mr. Cunanan can be relayed to the company at telephone numbers (02) 366-7151 to 58.

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INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Philippine Economic Zone Authority (PEZA) invites interested parties to apply for eligibility and to bid for the projects as listed below:

A. PROJECT I : CONCRETING OF LUZON AVENUE
B. PROJECT II : REHABILITATION OF SFB NOS. 1, 2, 4 & 7
LOCATION : BEZ, Mariveles, Bataan

Prospective bidders must be duly licensed by the Philippine Contractors Accreditation Board (PCAB) and registered as "Medium A" for roads for Project I and Medium "B" for buildings for Project II by the Inter-Agency Committee for Registration and Classification of Contractors for Government Infrastructure projects. Eligbility requirements/forms will be made available to Contractors upon submission of the required documents at the BAC Secretariat, EMD Office, 2nd Floor, BEZ Administration Building, BEZ, Mariveles, Bataan, as follows:

1 Letter of Intent
2. Certificate of Contractor's Renewal from PCAB and License (Bring Original copy for authentication purposes)

Name of Project	Issuance and Price of Eligibility Forms	Deadline for submission of accomplished eligibility forms	Issuance of Bid Documents	Approved Budget for the Contract	Duration of Contract	PRE-BID CONFERENCE	Submission and Opening of Bids	Price of Non-refundable fee for Bid Documents
A. Project I: Concreting of Luzon Avenue	Php 200.00 Nov. 19-26, 2002	November 29, 2002 5:00 P.M.	Dec. 5-6, 2002	Php 14,222,635.00	210 CD	Dec. 10, 2002 2:00 P.M.	Dec. 19, 2002 2:00 P.M.	Php 2,500.00
	BAC Secretariat, EMD Off., 2nd flr. BEZ Admin. Bldg.	BAC Secretariat, 2nd Flr., BEZ Admin. Bldg.	BAC Secretariat, 2nd flr. BEZ Admin. Bldg.			Audio-Visual Rm. 2nd Flr. BEZ Admin. Bldg.	Audio-Visual Rm., 2nd Flr. BEZ Admin. Bldg.	Finance Div. Grd. Flr., BEZ Admin. Bldg.

SCOPE OF WORK:
1 Removal of existing asphalt pavement
2. Portland Cement Concrete Pavement 12,940.00 sq.m.; 230 mm thick
3. Removal and reconstruction of curbs & gutters and sidewalk
4. Aggregate base course
5. Bituminous tack coat and Bituminous Concrete Surface Course

EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS FOR PROJECT I:
1. One (1) unit batching plant (owned/leased)
2. Two (2) units Transit mixer (owned/leased)
3. One (1) unit Payloader (owned)
4. One (1) unit Backhoe with pavement breaker (owned)
5. One (1) unit Road Grader (owned)
6. One (1) unit Vibratory roller (owned)
7. One (1) unit Water Truck (owned)
8. One (1) unit Concrete Screader (owned)
9. Two (2) units Concrete Mixer (one-bagger, owned)
10 Two (2) units Concrete Vibrator (owend)

Name of Project	Issuance and Price of Eligibility Forms	Deadline for submission of accomplished eligibility forms	Issuance of Bid Documents	Approved Budget for the Contract	Duration of Contract	PRE-BID CONFERENCE	Submission and opening of Bids	Price of Non-refundable fee for Bid Documents
B. Rehabilitation of SFB Nos 1 2, 4 & 7	Php 200.00 Nov 25-Dec. 2, 2002	Dec. 6, 2002 5:00 P.M.	Dec. 10 & 11, 2002	Php 27,269,702.00	365 CD	Dec. 16, 2002 2:00 P.M.	Dec. 26, 2002 2:00 P.M.	Php 3,000.00
	BAC-Secretariat, EMD Off., 2nd flr BEZ Admin Bldg.	BAC Secretariat, EMD Off., 2nd Flr., BEZ Admin. Bldg.	BAC Secretariat, EMD Off., 2nd flr. BEZ Admin. Bldg.			Audio-Visual Rm. 2nd Flr BEZ Admin. Bldg.	Audio-Visual Rm., 2nd Flr. BEZ Admin Bldg.	Finance Div. Grd. Flr., BEZ Admin Bldg.

SCOPE OF WORK:
1. Re-roofing
2. Rehab/repair of comfort rooms
3. Plumbing fixtures and fittings
4 Repainting of exterior and interior walls
5. Tileworks and glass and glazing
6. Electrical Works
7. Replacement of ceiling eaves and downspouts
8. Other repair works

The two (2) envelope system shall be adopted and the provisions of Executive Order No. 40, Series of 2001 and its implementing Rules and Regulations shall apply in the biddings.

For further particulars, please contact Ms. Catalina Desamito/Engr. Anicelo P. Gonzales, BAC Secretariat EMD Office, 2nd Floor, BEZ Administration Bldg. BEZ, Mariveles, Bataan or at Tel. No. (047) 936-4008.

The PEZA reserves the right to reject any and all bids, waive any defect or informality contained therein and to accept and award the contract to any bidder whose proposal is deemed most advantageous to the government. The Peza neither assumes any obligation for any loss whatsoever that may be incurred by the bidders in the preparation of bids nor does it guarantee that an award will be made

(Sgd.) DIONISIO T. SAMEN
Chairperson, Bids & Awards Committee

(PDI — Nov. 17 & 24, 2002)

INVITATION TO PRE-QUALIFY ELIGIBILITY AND BID

Winrock International, an international NGO based in the United States of America and operating in more than 40 countries, is implementing the Alliance for Mindanao Off-Grid Renewable Energy (AMORE) Program, a thirty (30)-month Cooperative Program with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), in partnership with the Philippine Department of Energy (DOE), the Autonomous Region for Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) and the private sector, aimed at establishing sustainable renewable energy systems in at least 160 remote barangays in Western and Central Mindanao, supporting community organization and economic development.

Winrock International-AMORE would like to invite interested bidders to submit application to Pre-Qualify for eligibility, and subsequently to bid, if pre-qualified for the following:

A. Supply and delivery of photovoltaic modules and materials for barangay-based battery charging facilities in Mindanao.
B. Supply and delivery of balance of system components for household lighting systems e.g. lighting, appliances, battery, low-voltage disconnect, house wiring, etc.
C. Supply and delivery of solar street lighting systems.
D. Supply and delivery of limited number of solar home systems and other photovoltaic systems.

Source and origin of the equipment shall be from the United States of America or the Philippines.

Eligibility forms and bidding documents will be available from 8:30-11:30 AM on November 29, 2002 only from Mr. Adonis K. Datu, Senior Finance Officer.

There will be a pre-bid and pre-qualification conference on **December 9, 2002** and shall start promptly at 9:30 AM, at the AMORE Office, Unit 1501 Jollibee Plaza, Emerald Avenue, Ortigas Center, Pasig City.

AMORE shall strictly follow the announced schedules. Late comers shall not be entertained.

Submission of sealed bids shall be before close of business (5PM) on **December 20, 2002** at the AMORE Office, Unit 1501, Jollibee Plaza, Emerald Avenue, Pasig City.

Winrock-AMORE reserves the right to reject any and all bids, waive any informality in the proposal and to accept any such bid most advantageous to AMORE.

(Sgd.) **RODRIGO E. CABRERA**
Chief of Party

(PDI--Nov. 24, 2002)

National Steel Corporation

INVITATION FOR PROPOSALS TO BUY

National Steel Corporation is inviting offers to purchase by way of sealed proposals, for cash and on "as-is-where-is" basis, the following assets:

ASSET DESCRIPTION	LOCATION
1 LOT PASIG PLANT ITEMS (CONSISTING OF BUILDINGS, MACHINERIES AND EQUIPMENT)	Bo. Kalawaan Sur, Pasig City

Terms and conditions of the sale are available at National Steel Corporation, Tel. No. (02) 752-4494 to 98.

Deadline for the submission of proposals will be on Wednesday, at 2 PM, Dec. 4, 2002, addressed to:

Atty. Danilo L. Concepcion
Liquidator, National Steel Corporation
Unit 2701, 88 Corporate Center Building
141 Sedeño St. cor. Valero St., Salcedo Village, Makati City

A performance bond amounting to at least ten percent (10%) of the price offer by way of cash, manager's or cashier's check is required to be submitted to the Makati Finance Cashier. NSC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, to waive any formality found therein, and to accept such proposals as may be considered most advantageous to its interest.

WANTED IMMEDIATELY
INVENTORY CLERK

Qualifications:
✓ Female (single)
✓ 21-25 years old
✓ Preferably Accounting graduate
✓ Knowledge in computer an advantage
✓ New graduates may apply

Send to : U.P. P.O. BOX 15,
DILIMAN, QUEZON CITY, 1101

✓ Comprehensive resumé
✓ Records of grades
✓ 2x2 or 1-½ x 1-½ ID picture

EXPERTCARE REVIEW & INFORMATION CENTER

Intensive CGFNS / NCLEX Reviews

to be conducted by

TOP "UST" Professors / Reviewers

Next CGFNS Exam: March 12, 2003

Review Classes starts December 7, 2002 to February 28, 2003

ENROLL NOW! FIRST COME FIRST SERVED!

- Intensive Refresher Course
- More than 230 hours of lecture and active discussions
- High Passing Rate
- Accessible location
- Air-conditioned classroom

Bring xerox copies of your PRC license & Transcript of Records for enrollment. #26 Quezon Ave., QC near D. Tuazon Tel: 743-5906 or 743-5880

WANTED IMMEDIATELY

1. ELECTRICAL OR ELECTRONIC ENGINEER

- Male; 25-35 years old
- With 2-3 years experience on automation, AC & DC Drive Control
- With knowledge on SIEMENS STEPS 5 & 7 Programming
- With strong leadership
- Salary Negotiable

2. COLLEGE GRADUATE

- Male; 25-35 years old
- With 3-5 years experience as Adjuster, Production & Maintenance Supervisor in Steel Rolling Mill
- With strong leadership
- Salary Negotiable

Please apply personally or send your resumé together with recent photo and photocopy of transcript of record at:

25th Floor Galleria Corporate Center
EDSA corner Ortigas Ave., Quezon City
Code: **WRM**

INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

The country's leading newspaper is looking for:

PROJECT PHOTO CLERK

Qualifications:
- College graduate
- Comfortable with the use of computer office softwares
- Must be systematic and good in coordination

Responsibilities:
- Handles filing and archiving of scanned photos

PROJECT EDITORIAL ASSISTANT

Qualifications:
- Graduate of Journalism, Mass Communication or English
- Knowledge in Computer Office and Layouting software Operations
- Must have hands-on experience in proofreading and layouting pages

Responsibilities:
- Shall proofread and design layout of the newspaper pages

NETWORK ENGINEER

Qualifications:
- Graduate of Computer Engineering or ECE
- Must have 1-2 years experience in computer networking
- Proficient with E-mail and Internet Administration

Responsibilities:
- Administers E-mail and internet clients on Linux Server
- Provides network technical support to end users
- Troubleshoots complex network and infrastructures issues
- Performs network cabling, termination, testing and installation of Network interface cards

Mail your application letter and comprehensive resumé to:

HR MANAGEMENT SERVICES HEAD
Philippine Daily Inquirer
Chino Roces Avenue (formerly Pasong Tamo)
Corner Yague and Mascardo Streets, Makati City

E-mail: recruitment@inquirer.com.ph

GROWTH WITH EQUITY IN MINDANAO (GEM) PROGRAM
A Project of the United States Agency for International Development
The General Contractor is THE LOUIS BERGER GROUP, INC.
Tel: (6382) 298-2192 • Fax: (6382) 298-2195
USAID Contract No: 492-C-00-02-00018-00

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY TO BID

1 The Philippines has received a grant from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) to fund the cost of the Growth with Equity in Mindanao (GEM) Program (the Project). A portion of the proceeds of this grant will be used for the construction of the Mid-Scale Infrastructure Program (MSIP) subprojects for which this Invitation for Prequalification is being issued. The GEM Project Management Office based in Davao City will implement the MSIP subprojects.

2. The MSIP subprojects will be located primarily in the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) as well as conflict-affected areas and will include various components in the port, water supply, roads and bridges, irrigation, drainage and flood control, and general civil works categories. Individual contract costs will range in value from PhP 20 million up to PhP 50 million. Total USAID budget allocation for the MSIP subprojects is PhP 750 million (US$15 million).

3. GEM shall tender the works on a unit cost basis under USAID-approved bidding procedures. Bids for the various contract packages will be issued beginning the second quarter of 2003 and tendering will continue in a phased manner through August 2006. The scheduled completion date for all subproject construction is June 30, 2007.

4. Contractors will be prequalified for different categories and values of work based on their previous experience and financial capabilities. For prequalification purposes, the works will be divided into the following Groups:
A. Port Improvement
B. Water Supply
C. Roads and Bridges
D. Irrigation
E. Drainage and Flood Control
F. General Civil Works

5. Prequalification is open to licensed construction firms from the Philippines. Applications may be made for one or more of the above groups

6. Only those contractors who have been prequalified for the GEM works will be invited to submit bids for any MSIP subproject. Prequalification will be valid for the entire Project period, although GEM reserves the right to update the list of prequalified contractors from time to time if required.

7. Eligible applicants may obtain the prequalification documents at the office of the Chief of Party, GEM Program, QFC Building, Phase 7 Ecoland Subdivision, Matina, Davao City 8000, Philippines up to 13 December 2002. Afterwards, applicants may obtain the prequalification documents at the new GEM office address located at the 2nd Floor, Aldevinco Commercial Building No. 7, Ladislawa Avenue, Buhangin, Davao City, Philippines. Applicants may also download the documents at the following website: www.mindanao.org/pqdownload

8. Applications for prequalification must be submitted in sealed envelopes. They must be delivered either by hand, courier, or registered mail to the office of the Chief of Party, Attention: Deputy Chief of Party for Contracts, GEM, at 2nd Floor, Aldevinco Commercial Building No. 7, Ladislawa Avenue, Buhangin, Davao City, Philippines no later than **3:00 p.m. on December 27, 2002**, and be clearly marked *"Application to Prequalify for Construction of Mid-Scale Infrastructure Works under Local Competitive Bidding Procedures for the Growth with Equity in Mindanao Program."*

9. GEM reserves the right to accept or reject late applications.

10. GEM will advise the applicants of the results of their application in due course. Only firms prequalified under this procedure will be eligible to bid for MSIP subproject contracts

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CULTURAL CENTER OF THE PHILIPPINES
Wishes to announce its

INVITATION TO BID

"AS IS, WHERE IS"
For the sale of the following:

DESCRIPTION:

6	units	Unserviceable Vehicles
6	units	Unserviceable Motorcycles
4	sets	Used Entrance and Exit Parking Equipment Brand MITEC
1	lot	Unserviceable Office Equipment and Office Furniture
1	lot	Assorted Scrap Materials and Newspapers
1	lot	Used Roofing Clay (Tegula)

Sealed bids in the prescribed form shall be received until 2:00 p.m on December 5, 2002 at the Property and Supply Division, Finance and Administrative Building, Cultural Center of the Philippines, Roxas Boulevard, Pasay City and shall then and there be opened for the sale of the item/s bidded.

All bids must be submitted with the proposal bond deposit in the form of cash or manager's check equivalent to five (5%) percent of the total bid price.

Additional information, request for inspection and bid forms may be secured from **MARIFEL O. PERALTA** or **STEVE NILO** at the above address or call telephone number 832-3705, 551-0039 or 832-3666.

The **CULTURAL CENTER OF THE PHILIPPINES** reserves the right to reject any or all bids, as well as to waive any defect in such bids, and to accept such bids as may be advantageous to the Center.

(Sgd.) SERGIO R. MANRIQUE
Chairman, Committee on Disposal

(PDI – Nov. 24, 2002)

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

ANTONIO "TONY" V. MANGAHAS

The Public is notified that the above personnel, **ANTONIO V. MANGAHAS**, whose photo appears herein is no longer connected since Oct. 25, 2002 with **UNIVERSAL SALES CORP.**, the sole distributor of **VIKING Blades & UNIVERSAL Tools**. Any transactions & collections made through him will not be honored by the company.

(PDI – Nov. 24, 2002)

ERRATUM

In the advertisement of the Department of Agriculture - OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY published at the Philippine Daily Inquirer last November 20, 2002, Wednesday.

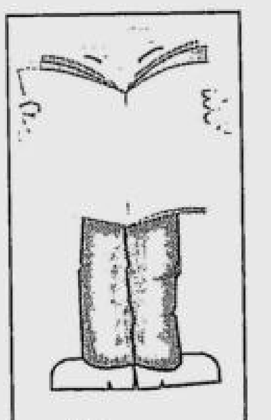
RE: Announcement on the first paragraph the words AND MILK PLANTS should have been included and read as follows:

Foreign meat and milk plants

(Sgd.) **EFREN C. NUESTRO**
Executive Director - NMIC
Spokesman on M.O. 7

(PDI - Nov. 24, 2002)

MAKE A CAREER CHOICE ONLINE.



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BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

The country's leading newspaper is looking for:

CIRCULATION FIELDMAN

Qualifications:

- Graduate of any Business Course
- With excellent customer relations skills
- Familiar with the street network of Metro Manila

Responsibilities:

- Shall visit and monitor agents' sales performance
- Handles inquiries and complaints of agents

Mail your application letter and comprehensive resumé to:

HR MANAGEMENT SERVICES HEAD
Philippine Daily Inquirer
Chino Roces Avenue (formerly Pasong Tamo)
Corner Yague and Mascardo Streets, Makati City
E-mail: recruitment@inquirer.com.ph

NEW PAGCOR

Philippine Amusement & Gaming Corporation
Responding Through Responsible Gaming

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID
ITB NO.: 11-40-2002

The Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corporation (PAGCOR) is inviting all Authorized Distributors/Dealers/Re-marketers in its forthcoming bidding for the **supply, customization and support of the Electronic Data Warehousing Solution Software** described hereunder:

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

PROJECT: ENTERPRISE DATA WAREHOUSING SOLUTION

1. EDW RDBMS
   - 1.1 Specifically designed for decisions support, not OLTP
   - 1.2 Scalable to Terabytes of Data and 100s of users
   - 1.3 Can work on NT or Unix Platform
   - 1.4 Minimal administration and DBA tuning required for optimum performance of decision support queries
   - 1.5 Good data compression capabilities to enable savings on data storage and redundancy
2. PLATFORM
   - 2.1 2 CPU (expandable to 4 CPU), 700 MHz or 900 MHz
   - 2.2 2 GB RAM (expandable to 4)
   - 2.3 Fiber Channel External Disk Storage (configurable to RAID 0, 1, 5, 0+1)
   - 2.4 Automated tape back-up facility
3. DATA MINING TOOL
   - 3.1 Open, non-proprietary process methodology for Data Mining
   - 3.2 Visual and intuitive modeling interface (not very complex to use or understand)
   - 3.3 Must have available application templates
   - 3.4 Can deploy predictions to business users and operational decision makers
   - 3.5 Can perform what-if-analyses and other such forecasting methods
4. FRONT-END REPORTING TOOL/OLAP TOOL
   - 4.1 Must have minimal administration in terms of installations and updates
   - 4.2 Must have robust security system that can integrate with NT user authentication
   - 4.3 No need for client middle-ware
   - 4.4 Single interface for query, reporting and analysis needs
   - 4.5 Multi-dimensional analysis (i.e. slicing and dicing the data) must be available, as well as drill-down, drill-up and drill-across
5. ETL TOOL
   - 5.1 Must have native support for the primary RDBMS vendors, as well as ODBC support for a broader set of databases
   - 5.2 Must have ability to extract, directly or via third party modules, from packaged applications like Oracle Applications or SAP
   - 5.3 Must have graphical designer
   - 5.4 Must have Debugging and productivity tools
   - 5.5 Must have ability to extract from multiple sources simultaneously and independently
6. PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
   - 6.1 Consultant (Data Warehouse Architect) must have at least 5 years experience in Data Warehouse Development
   - 6.2 Consultant has implemented Data Warehouse in the Gaming Industry
   - 6.3 Must have local support for Data Warehouse projects
   - 6.4 Must have Data Warehousing implementation experience
   - 6.5 Should provide 24/7 On-line assistance
   - 6.6 Should provide one (1) year warranty period on the software
   - 6.7 Should provide three (3) year warranty of Next Business Day (NBD) Parts replacement and one (1) year NBD On-Site Labor service
   - 6.8 Should be implemented in three (3) months, (Given the required scope of deliverables)

Only suppliers duly registered with PAGCOR shall be allowed to participate in the bidding. Unregistered suppliers must register at the Suppliers Registration & Evaluation Division (SRED), Procurement & Property Department (PPD), 2nd Floor PAGCOR House, 1330 Roxas Blvd., Ermita, Manila, Tel. No. 526-0573.

The detailed project particulars and instructions to bidders are discussed in the **Bid Documents** available for issuance from **November 22, 2002 to December 10, 2002** at the BAC Secretariat Unit (BSU), PPD upon payment of a non-refundable fee of ***Five Hundred Pesos (P500.00)***. In order to secure the documents, interested bidders should primarily submit a **Letter of Intent** to the BSU **not later than 5:00 p.m., December 5, 2002.**

Pre-Bid Conference : January 03, 2003 (Fri.) (10:00 a.m.)
Submission of Bids : January 15, 2003 (Fri.) (10:00 a.m.)
Opening of Bids : January 15, 2003 (Fri.) (10:00 a.m. onwards)

PAGCOR has the right to disqualify any prospective bidder found to have submitted falsified documents and/or information, to accept or reject any or all bids, to annul the bidding process, to waive any defects or formalities found therein and to accept such bid or a part thereof as may be deemed most advantageous to PAGCOR, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder/s.

PAGCOR reserves the right to reject any and all bids, or declare a failure of bidding, or not award the contract for any justifiable reason including among others, if there is evidence of collusion between relevant public officers or employees of the agency or the BAC and any of the bidders, or among the bidders, or between bidders and third parties, including any act which restricts, suppresses or nullifies competition, or if the BAC is found to have failed to follow the prescribed bidding procedures (*Executive Order 40, Sec. 29*).

Please address all communications to the BAC Secretariat Unit, Procurement & Property Department.

(Sgd.) RENE C. FIGUEROA
Chairperson, BAC 2

(PDI - Nov. 24 & Dec. 1, 2002)

PHILIPPINE 2000

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Social Welfare and Development
Batasan Pambansa Complex, Constitution Hills
Quezon City
Telephone No. 931-8101 to 07

INVITATION FOR BIDS

Loan No. 4301-PH
IFB No. ECD-PMO-02/DSWD-011

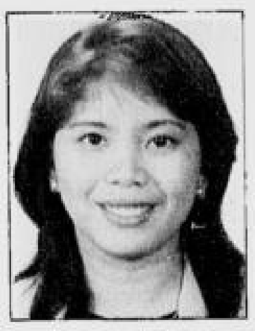
1. The Government of the Republic of the Philippines (through the Department of Social Services and Development (DSWD) has received a loan from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) in various currencies towards the financing of Early Childhood Development Project Development Project (ECDP). It is intended that part of the proceeds of this loan will be applied to eligible payments under the contract for supply and delivery of Information Technology (IT) Equipment.
2. The Department of Social Welfare and Development, Early Childhood Development Project (ECDP), now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the supply and delivery of IT Equipment. This includes one hundred five (105) units each of Hi-End Brand Desktop Computer with Modem, Hi-End Brand Laser Printer, Hi-End Brand Uninterruptible Power Supply, two (2) units Hi-End Laptop Computer, three (3) units Hi-End Brand CD Writer and upgrading of two (2) units Hi-End Brand Server.
3. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information and secure the complete set of bidding documents, upon presentation of a letter of intent, starting **4 December 2002** from Ms. Maricris Jacinto of the Property and Supply Division, 2nd Floor, DSWD, Batasan Complex, Constitution Hills, Quezon City with telephone nos. (632) 9318161, (632) 9318101-07 local 125, and fax no. (632) 9316146 or 9318127.
4. A complete set of bidding documents may be purchased by interested bidders in the amount of TWO THOUSAND PESOS (P2,000.00) starting **4 December 2002** upon submission of letter of intent to the above.
5. The provisions in the Instructions to Bidders and in the General Conditions of Contract are the provisions of the World Bank *Standard Bidding Documents: Procurement of Goods.*
6. Bids must be delivered to the Property Division, 2nd Floor, Department of Social Welfare and Development, Batasan Pambansa Complex, Constitution Hills, Quezon City on or before 10:00 a.m. on **20 December 2002** and must be accompanied by a bid security of two (2) percent of total bid price.
7. Bids will be opened in the presence of bidders' representatives who choose to attend at 10:00 a.m. on **20 December 2002** at Administrative Conference Room, Batasan Complex, Quezon City.
8. Prior to bid opening, a pre-bid conference will be held on **12 December 2002** at 10:00 a.m. at the address indicated in paragraph 7.

(Sgd.) RHODA F. YAP
Assistant Secretary and
Chairperson, DSWD-BAC

(PDI - Nov. 24 & Dec. 1, 2002)

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

This is to inform the public that **MS. GRACIELLA S. JORDAN** whose picture appears below is no longer connected with **International Quality Manpower Services, Inc. (I.Q. MAN)** effective November 15, 2002.



GRACIELLA "GRACE" S. JORDAN

All transactions entered into by **GRACIELLA "GRACE" S. JORDAN** for and in behalf of I.Q. MAN from the said date will not be honored by the company.

(PDI – Nov. 24, 2002)

MAYNILAD WATER SERVICES, INC.
G/F MWSI Bldg., MWSS Complex
Katipunan Road, Balara, Q.C., Philippines 1100
Tel. Nos. (632) 928-2303, 435-3366, 920-5521

INVITATION TO BID

Maynilad Water Services, Inc. (MWSI) is inviting all qualified suppliers/bidders to participate in the following Bids to be conducted by MWSI Purchasing Department:

Type of Bidding		Particulars	
1.	E-BID	370 Cylinders	**LIQUID CHLORINE (AWWA B-301-92)** 68 kilograms/cylinder Staggered Delivery (3-years) Delivery Place - Noveleta Pumping Station Noveleta, Cavite **Pre-Bid Conference - December 02, 2002** **Bidding Date - December 18, 2002**
Bid Documents for the above bidding shall be issued for a **non-refundable participating fee** of P1,000.00 starting November 25, 2002.			
2.	E-BID	200 pieces 60 pieces 40 pieces	Class B Vertical Turbine Water Meter Class B Vertical Turbine Water Meter Class B Vertical Turbine Water Meter As per MWSI Technical Specifications **Pre-Bid Conference - November 29, 2002** **Bidding Date - December 17, 2002**
Bid Documents for the above bidding shall be issued for a **non-refundable participating fee** of P1,000.00 starting November 25, 2002.			
3.	E-BID		Comprehensive Insurance of 328 units MWSI Vehicles **Pre-Bid Conference - November 26, 2002** **Bidding Date - December 04, 2002**
Bid Documents for the above bidding shall be issued for a **non-refundable participating fee** of P1,000.00, starting November 25, 2002.			
4.	SEALED BID		Supply and Delivery of Standard Office Furniture (Tables, Chairs & Cabinets) for MWSI Offices **Pre-Bid Conference - December 05, 2002** **Bidding Date - December 12, 2002**
Bid Documents for the above bidding shall be issued for a **non-refundable participating fee** of P500.00, starting November 25, 2002.			

Documents for the above scheduled biddings can be secured at the Purchasing Department, Basement, MWSS Engineering Building, MWSS Compound, Katipunan Road, Balara, Quezon City.

Very truly yours,

(Sgd.) IGNACIO B. GIMENEZ
SAVP, Corporate Logistics

(PDI - Nov 23 & 24, 2002)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

DISPOSAL SALE

Sealed Bid Sale of used office and residential furniture/equipment, appliances, five (5) units 1992 and two (2) units 1994 Mitsubishi Pajero, 2 door, 4x4, manual transmission and one (1) unit 1989 Mitsubishi L-300 Van, manual transmission are offered for bidding on an **"AS IS - WHERE IS"** basis.

All items except for the two (2) units of 1994 Mitsubishi Pajero (located at Cebu and Ilo-Ilo) can be inspected on **November 25-27, 2002** from 8:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. at USVA/Out-Patient Clinic, 2201 Roxas Boulevard, Pasay City. Bid forms are available at the site. Submission of bids and cash deposits (20% of the total bid) can be done at the site during the sale. Full payment and bid deposit refunds will be on **November 29, 2002** at 8:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the USVA/Out-Patient Clinic Cashier.

For further information, please call Mr. Manuel Fidel Holandez and Ms. Emy Santos at Tel. Nos. 833-4566 to 69 local 8205 / 8206.

AUCTION

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RESTAURANT EQUIPMENT - Stainless Steel Display Counters; Stainless Steel Breading Tables, Refrigerated Display Cabinets, HOSHIZAKI Dishwashers, GROEN Convection Ovens, Plate Heaters, Gas Range Ovens, etc

OFFICE FURNITURE & EQUIPMENT - Executive/Clerical Desks; Typewriter Tables; Wooden Work Surfaces, Wooden Storage Cabinets, Upholstered Clerical/Guest Chairs; Asstd Steel Lateral Filing Cabinets, Pedestal Drawers, Marble Topped Tables; Computer Monitors, CPU's, etc

MISC. & SCRAPS - Security X-Ray Baggage Scanner; Asstd. Television Sets; Microwave Ovens, Bundy Clocks; Asstd Textiles; A Large Qty. Of Butane Fuel Cartridges, Filter Elements; Glass Facade; Asstd. Chemicals, Asstd. Hand Tools, Asstd. Air Conditioning Units, Heavy Duty P.V.C. Garbage Bins (unused), etc.

AT: HENRY BUTCHER AUCTION CENTER
BLDG 7, VRCC ROAD, VETERANS CENTER, TAGUIG
AUCTION DATE: THURSDAY 28TH NOVEMBER 2002 10:30AM SHARP
VIEWING DATE: WEDNESDAY 27TH NOVEMBER 2002
9:00AM - 5:00PM AND MORNING OF SALE DAY
REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT: PHP20,000 (UPON REGISTRATION)

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IN OVER 800 LOTS INCLUDING:

DAY-1 FIBERTEX CORPORATION

EXTRUDERS - (10) BARMAG Extruders, 3T cap. Single Screw Extruder

PLASTIC INJECTION MOULDING MACHINE - DONGSHIN PRO 550P 550T cap. (1994), DONGSHIN PRO 450P 450T cap. (1994), HYUNDAI HD330 SSII 330T cap. (1993); HYUNDAI HD150 SAII 150T cap. (1992), DONGSHIN PRO MAX100 100T cap. (1992); DONGSHIN PROMAX 70 70T cap. (1992); BATTENFELD 1300T Cap., BATTENFELD 50T cap ; A Qty. of Moulds

MACHINE SHOP EQUIPMENT - HITACHI Horizontal Milling Machine; JINYOUNG Horizontal Spindle Surface Grinder, Turret Mill; UCIMU 400 x 2000mm Gap Bed Lathe; MAXIMAT Bench Lathe, SUNGKWAN Shaper, (2) YOOLIN Furnaces; High Frequency Welding Machine; Pin Press, (2) Sanding Machines; ALZMETAL Pedestal Drill; Pedestal Grinder

POWER PLANT/ELECTRICAL - (2) MIRLEES KV35 12 Cylinder Base Load Diesel Generator 450rpm w/ Brush 2250 KVA Alternators; A Qty. of Engine Spares, Generator Maintenance Machinery, DEMAG 8T cap. Overhead Traveling Crane, PHILEC 7500 KVA Transformer, SIEMENS SPS 38 31 5.1 38KV Circuit Breaker, (2) MANN Standby Generating Sets, w/ Switchgear, Asstd. Transformers; A Large Qty. of Heavy Duty Electric Cable, etc.

STEAM - (3) KEWANEE 300HP Steam Boilers

LIQUID NITROGEN PLANT - Complete Liquid Nitrogen Plant w/ Compressors, Storage Tanks, TRANE CENTRAVAC 650T cap., CARRIER 450T cap. Chillers; Pumps; Pipework; Complete Water Demineralizing Plant w/ 20 cu. m /hour cap., etc.

COMPRESSED AIR - ATLAS COPCO ZR3-66 Screw Type Air Compressor

LOOSE TOOLS & EQUIPMENT - RIGID Pipe Threading Tools; RIGID Stillson Wrenches, DAMAR Chainsaw, Machine Vices; A Large Qty. of Asstd. C.V. Spanners; A Large Qty. of ¾" / 1" C.V. Sockets, Bearing Pullers, Contractors Tools; ENERPAC 20T cap. Bearing Puller Set, RED ELEPHANT 1T cap. Electric Hoist, Asstd. Gas Cutting Equipment; Asstd. Lifting Gear, etc

MOTOR VEHICLES - 66 Seater Passenger Bus; MITSUBISHI Aluminium Closed Box Van

MISCELLANEOUS - Stainless Steel Blender, A Large Qty. of Stainless Steel/Steel Pipework, A Qty. of Stainless Steel Tanks; Water Cooling Towers; Asstd. Electrical Spares; Asstd. Magnetic Wire, A Qty. of Stainless Steel Wire Netting, A large Qty. Of Asstd. Valves (unused), A Large Qty. of Asstd. Bearings (unused); A Qty. of Large Cap. Electric Motors; A Qty. of Asstd. Chemicals, A Large Qty. of Miscellaneous Spare Parts; Laboratory Glassware; etc

DAY-2 HILON MANUFACTURING

EXTRUDERS - (4) BARMAG 12E4 Extruders w/ Controls;(4) Stainless Steel 4T cap. Silos

SPINNING - (2) BOREL Pre-heating Ovens; 1 Set (6) Position Four Section 210 wt/24 Filament, 1 Set (12) Position Four Section 70 wt/24 Filament; 2 Sets (14) Position Four Section 40 wt/10 Filament

TAKE-UP - IWKA S45 VE 12/750 EFS 210D-15 12 Position Winding Machine; IWKA S45 VE 6/750 ESF 210D-15 6 Position Winding Machine; IWKA S45 VE 28/750 ESF 210D-15 28 Position Winding Machine

TWISTING - (18) ZINSER 14S Drawtwisters; (2) ZINSER High Tenacity Drawtwister w/ Heaters, BENESPINO, MURATA Cone Winders; (200+) Mobile Spool Racks

POWER PLANT/ELECTRICAL - (4) MIRLEES 12 Cylinder Base Load Diesel Generators 450 rpm w/ GE Alternators; A Large Qty. of Alternator/Engine Spares; DEMAG 5T cap. Overhead Traveling Crane; General Motors 300 kva Standby Generating Set w/ Switchgear, Asstd. Transformers; MEIDEN 2500 kva Substation Transformer; SIEMENS Simovert Frequency Converter; GE SP200 Adjustable Frequency Drives; A Large Qty. of Heavy Duty Electric Cable

STEAM - (2) KEWANEE 300HP, KEWANEE 200HP Steam Boilers

LIQUID NITROGEN PLANT - Complete LINDE Liquid Nitrogen Plant w/ Compressors; Storage Tank. (2) CARRIER 300T Cap. Chillers, Pumps, Pipework, etc.

COMPRESSED AIR - ATLAS COPCO ZR3-65 Screw Type Air Compressor w/ ATLAS COPCO CD80 Air Dryer

AIR CONDITIONING - LUWA Airconditioning Equipment;

MOTOR VEHICLES - (2) HINO Aluminium Closed Box Vans; HINO RAINBOW, FUSO Passenger Busses(2) TOYOTA Forklift Trucks

MISCELLANEOUS - Diesoline Fuel Dispenser; Asstd. Steel Storage Tanks; Machine Saw, Tool & Cutter Grinder; Crocodile Jack, A Large Qty. Of Electric Motors; (2) BUSCH, TOLEDO 500 Kg cap. Platform Scales, 500mm x 25m Motorized Belt Conveyor, A Large Qty. Of Plastic Stackable Storage Bins, Receiver Mounted Air Compressor, etc.

LOCATION DAY-1: FIBERTEX CORPORATION - Km. 26, Bo. Dolores, Taytay, Rizal
LOCATION DAY-2: HILON MANUFACTURING - Bo. Mayapa, Canlubang, Laguna
AUCTION DATE: Thursday 5th & Friday 6th December 2002 - 10:30am Sharp
ON VIEW: Tuesday 3rd & Wednesday 4th December 2002
from 9:00am - 5:00pm and Morning of Sale Days
REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT: PHP30,000 (Upon Registration)

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Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
CENTRAL OFFICE
Bids and Awards Committee

Bldg. No. 3, San Lazaro Cmpd.
Rizal Ave., Sta. Cruz, Manila
Telefax No. 743-7236
Trunkline No. 743-8301
Local 1338

INVITATION FOR BID

Loan No.: 1396-PH(SF)
IFB No.: ICHSP-2002-004LAN

1. The Government of the Philippines through the Department of Health (DOH) has received a loan from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) towards the cost of the INTEGRATED COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICES PROJECT (ICHSP), and it is intended that part of the proceeds of this loan be applied to eligible payments under the contract for the Supply, Delivery and Installation of Local Area Network Equipment to ICHSP Replication Provinces.
2. The DOH desires to procure the Goods described and itemized in the Bid Document through International Shopping in accordance with the applicable guidelines of the ADB, and now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders from member countries of ADB for the Supply, Delivery and Installation of Local Area Network Equipment to ICHSP Replication Provinces.

SCHEDULE OF BID ACTIVITIES:

ACTIVITIES	DATE	TIME
Issuance of Bid Documents	November 18, 2002	
Deadline of Issuance of Bid Documents	December 6, 2002	
Pre-Bid Conference	November 25, 2002	1:00 PM
Deadline of Submission of Bids	December 9, 2002	1:00 PM
Opening of Bids	December 9, 2002	1:01 PM

3. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information on the bid form and inspect the bidding documents at the **Procurement and Logistics Service (PLS), 2nd Floor, Building 25, San Lazaro Compound, Sta. Cruz, Manila.**
4. Complete set of bidding documents may be purchased by any interested eligible bidder at this address upon payment of a non-refundable fee of **FIVE THOUSAND PESOS (PhP5,000.00)** or **TWO HUNDRED FIFTY US DOLLARS (US$250.00)** including air courier for foreign bidders. The method of payment will be in cash or in the form of a bank draft. Information including names of potential bidders and contact persons, telephone and facsimile numbers, cable, e-mail and mailing address should be provided in the application to facilitate communications during the bidding process.
5. A pre-bidding conference will be held on the scheduled date at the ICHSP Conference Room, **4th Flr., Philippine Tuberculosis Society Society (PTS) Building, Tayuman St., Sta. Cruz, Manila.**
6. Bids must be delivered to the address stated below on or before the deadline of submission of bids, after which all bids will be immediately opened in the presence of the Bidder's representatives who choose to attend. All bids must be accompanied by a bid security in the amount of not less than two percent (2%) of the Total Bid Price in the currency of the bid or any freely convertible currency. Late bids shall be rejected.

   ICHSP CONFERENCE ROOM
   4th Floor, Philippine Tuberculosis Society Building,
   Tayuman Street, Sta. Cruz, Manila
7. The DOH reserves the right to reject any or all bids without disclosing any reason, to waive any minor defects or infirmities therein and to accept such bid as may be considered advantageous to DOH and to local health units.

(Sgd.) ZENAIDA O. LUDOVICE, MD, MPH
Assistant Secretary of Health
Chairperson, COBAC

(PDI - Nov. 17 & 24, 2002)

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

JAYSON YEO has been charged with nine counts of Violation of Batas Pambansa (BP) Blg. 22 in **Criminal Case Nos. 378596CR to 378496CR** before the Metropolitan Trial Court of Manila (Branch 16) which has issued a warrant for his arrest. Please relay any information as to his whereabouts at **Tel. Nos. 242-27-91 / 242-27-80 and Toll Free No. 1-800-1-888-4321.**

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

ENGR. FIDEL L. LACABA has been charged with Violation of Batas Pambansa Blg. 22 in **Criminal Case Nos. 375398 and 375399** before the Metropolitan Trial Court of Manila (Branch 29) which has issued a warrant for his arrest. Please relay any information as to his whereabouts at **Tel. Nos. 2438949 and (0916) 4256730**.

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OBITUARIES

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*"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son,
that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life."*
John 3:16

GERTRUDES "TUDING" C. NUELAN

of 816 Sucat, Muntinlupa City
and 18 Ellington Street, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada

Peacefully joined his Creator on November 22, 2002.

His late husband **Amado** (†); sister **Francisca**; children **Doming, Matilde, Amelia, Turing** (†), **Nestor, Zeny, Ponching** & **Nemy** mourn his passing away and request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at Chapel Ipil, La Funeraria Paz (inside Manila Memorial Park) Sucat, Parañaque City.

Interment will be on Tuesday, November 26, 2002 at the Manila Memorial Park, Sucat, Parañaque after the 2:00 PM Mass (Funeraria Paz).

Message of Thanks
We, the family of the late

LILIA H. SUAREZ

who passed away on November 7, 2002
wish to express our deepest gratitude to all of you who offered prayers and material help; kept vigil with us; and in many immeasurable ways condoled with us in these most difficult times.

ANTONIO ESPOSITO MAGNO, SR.

Died on November 20, 2002
at the age 86.

Chapel K, Loyola Memorial Chapels
Guadalupe, Makati

Interment at Manila Memorial Park
Sucat, Parañaque
Saturday, November 30, 2002
9:00 a.m. Mass

Message of Thanks
We, the family and relatives of the late

PRUDENCIO PALAD PEREZ

of Samal, Bataan and Sta. Ana, Manila
who peacefully joined his Creator
on October 24, 2002
sincerely convey our deepest gratitude and appreciation to all who offered Masses and prayers, sent flowers, visited and kept vigil, attended the funeral rites and condoled with us in our moment of grief.

Message of Thanks
We, the family of the late

DR. BAYANI S. SANTOS, D.V.M.

September 30, 1934 – October 18, 2002
Class of 1954,
U.P. College of Veterinary Medicine
formerly Secretary of the College
M.S., University of Wisconsin, U.S.A.

wish to express our heartfelt gratitude
to all those who condoled with us.

Parents : Dr. Teodorico B. Santos (†)
and Fidela S. Santos (†)
Siblings : Leticia, M.D.
Soliman and Merci Melchor
Perla Minda, M.D.
and Erik Kissmeyer, Ph.D.
Rizalina and Buenaventura Silva III (†)
Ibarra, Ph.D. (†) and Thelma Trasmer
Bessie and Braulio Raul V. Idea, M.D. (†)
and his nephews, nieces and grandchildren

I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.
John 14:6

FE MONICA DIONISIO CLAUDIO

Died in the Grace of our Lord
on October 12, 2002

Relatives and friends request
the pious readers to pray for the
eternal repose of her soul.

Her ashes rest at the
Santa Rita Memorial Crypts,
Philam Homes, Quezon City.

DR. ARTURO A. ALAFRIZ

(Former Solicitor General)

Died in the Grace of our Lord on November 22, 2002
at the age of 95.

His bereaved family, relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at Chapel 3, St. Alphonsus de Liguori, Magallanes Chapel, Makati City on November 25, 2002.

MESSAGE OF THANKS

We, the employees of
Unilever in the Philippines,
and colleagues of

Raymund B. Honorio
Dominador M. Medina
Eduardo B. Noveloso
Romulo M. Paragas

who had joined their Creator on October 3, 2002,
wish to convey our heartfelt gratitude to all those
who condoled with us and the families of
Mon, Ador, Ed and PJ in our time of grief –
those who offered prayers,
sent flowers and messages of sympathy,
visited and attended the funeral rites.

Our sincerest thanks to all of you.

Unilever

"He has made all things perfect in His time"

May we request our relatives, friends, province mates,
office mates, village mates, and classmates of:

Esperanza "Arlene" Manongdo Valera, 40

Ateneo Graduate School
of San Fernando, La Union

and

Marlowe James Manongdo Valera, 14

La Salle High School Greenhills
of Ayala Heights, Quezon City

to pray for the eternal repose of Arlene and Marlowe's soul.
God gave them 21 and 14 happy years of their lives.
He has decided to take them back to heaven and we accept His will.

Arlene and Malowe's remains lie in state at
the Funeraria Nacional, Araneta Avenue, Quezon City.
Interment is scheduled on Sunday, November 24, 2002, 2:00 PM
at Loyola Memorial Park, Marikina after a 1:00 PM Mass at Funeraria Nacional.

"Arlene and Marlowe, we thank you for the care, laughter and love we shared.
We love you so much."

Atty. Gil Astudillo Valera, 47
Cedric James Manongdo Valera, 19
Patrick James Manongdo Valera, 18
Maria Beatriz Manongdo Valera, 10

Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.

Matthew 10:39

"You will forever be in our hearts Mommy"

Carmen
Espinosa Bautista

of San Juan, Metro Manila

Died peacefully in the Grace of our Lord on November 20, 2002 at the age of 74.

Her beloved husband **TONY**; children **JOANNE & FRANCIS, SUSAN & BENJIE, VIVIAN & RONNIE, SONNY & BENG, MI-ANN**; grandchildren, relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at the Arlington Memorial Chapels, 12 G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City.

Holy Mass will be offered daily at 8:00 PM.

Interment will be on Thursday, November 28, 2002 at the Loyola Memorial Park, Marikina after the 8:00 AM Mass.

Aimee
Anna Margarita Villasenor Mercado

(September 12, 1969 - November 19, 2002)

Joined her Creator peacefully on November 19, 2002 in Bangkok, Thailand.

Aimee is survived by her husband **Miguel**, and their children **Luis** and **Rocio**; her parents **Noel** and **Carmela**; her sister **Poteet** with husband **Tiger** and their children **Marella & Jose.**

Her remains will be flown in to Manila and will lie in state at the Capilla dela Virgen, Santuario de San Antonio, Forbes Park, Makati from Saturday, 23 November to Tuesday, 26 November 2002.

Masses will be offered at 8 p.m. daily at the Capilla dela Virgen.

Funeral Mass will be at 9:00 a.m., 26 November 2002 at the Santuario de San Antonio Parish Church.

In Loving Memory
on the
1st Death Anniversary
of

PRUDENCIO (Dee) J. TEODORO, SR.

Masses Offered
on
November 25, 2002 (Monday)
at

SAN ANTONIO CHURCH
Forbes Park, Makati City
7:30 AM - 12:15 NN - 6:00 PM

OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL SHRINE
Broadway Avenue, New Manila
6:00 AM - 7:00 AM - 6:00 PM

SAN AGUSTIN CHURCH
Gen. Luna, Intramuros, Manila
6:30 AM - 7:00 AM - 5:30 PM

Rose D. Teodoro and family request relatives & friends, pious readers to join them in prayer for the eternal repose of his soul.

Message of Thanks

We, the family and friends of the late

FRANCISCO CARLOS GARCIA

who peacefully joined his Maker on October 5, 2002

wish to convey our sincerest gratitude to all of you who comforted us, sent flowers, Mass cards and messages of sympathy, and expressed love, concern and support in our time of bereavement.

Revelation 21:4
He will wipe every tear from their eyes.
There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain...

We, the family of the late

ARNULFO JOSE M. ANGELES

wish to express our profound gratitude to all of Arnel's friends, relatives and colleagues who, in more ways than one, expressed their sympathy and compassion and extended their support towards us in this time of great need.

ROCHE CONSUMER HEALTH
ROCHE PHILS., INC.
CHRIST COMMISSION FOUNDATION
MINDSHARE WORLDWIDE
LA MAREA HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

Our CCF Cell Group
Amazing Grace School
Nestle Philippines
Philippine Daily Inquirer

Friends from the pharmaceutical, media and advertising industries

Amy & Val Victa
Louie Roxas
Pastor Joby & Cindy Soriano
Lt. Richard & Mrs. Anne Agustin
Baby Marling
Minda Lansang
Jing & T.G. Serrano
Nanette & Oscar Nepomuceno

Thank you.

MESSAGE OF THANKS

MONITOR E. ENRIQUEZ Jr.

(December 14, 1927 – November 07, 2002)
He is survived by

his loving wife, **Amelia Cruz - Enriquez**

children:
- **Marge**
- **Ike and Charry**
- **Jackie and Tavi Barranco**
- **Joey and Cathy**
- **Kim and Chito Bustamante**

sisters:
- **Norma E. Noriega**
- **Leticia E. Canso**

brothers and sisters–in law:
- **Teresita and Antonio J. M. Sison**
- **Horacio and Blanca Cruz**
- **Josefina C. Rodil**
- **Fidel and Milagrosa Cruz**
- **Lourdes V. Enriquez**

grandchildren:
- **Anton and Kiko**
- **Kevin**
- **Senna and Erin**

We, the family and relatives of the late Monitor E. Enriquez, Jr. would like to thank those who sent flowers, offered masses and prayers, kept vigil, attended the funeral rites, donated peace and good wishes for his transition.

FOR YOUR CLASSIFIED ADS REQUIREMENTS, CALL OUR CLASSIFIEDS ADVERTISING HOTLINES: HEAD OFFICE: 897-8808 loc. 514, 516; 899-4425; 897-2535; 897-8425 (Telefax); **CUBAO:** 912-9008 to 11 (Aurora); **MAKATI:** 892-5578; 811-4361; 811-4370; **KALAW:** 528-0213; 527-3342; **MEGAMALL:** 635-0219, 635-0220

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Always caring... **INQUIRER OBITUARIES**

OBITUARY REQUIREMENTS:
❶ Copy of Death Certificate
❷ Any identification document (I.D.)

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Cebu Branch: A.S. Fortuna Street, Banilad, Mandaue City, Cebu; Tels. 346-2543; 346-2601
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Nivel Hills, Lahug, Cebu City; Tels. 231-0721; 231-3192
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No. 67 Pasig Boulevard Extension, Pasig City; Tels. 641-7909; 641-1735
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Calsadang Bago, Pateros, Metro Manila; Tels. 642-6181 to 82
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Bayani Road, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig, Metro Manila
Tels. (DL) 845-2341 to 42; (TL) 845-2334 to 38 loc. 110/112
HOLY GARDENS MEMORIAL PARK
Third Level, Unishoppe Complex, Quezon Ave., Angono, Rizal; Tels. 651-1711; 651-0737

HOLY TRINITY MEMORIAL CHAPELS
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18 H&L/#43 Reliance Rd., Nag-kaisang Nayon TLA 242 / FA 145 *Min Bid - P1,200,000*
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22 Condo-3BR,5TB, maid's rm,& parking/Unit 2603, AIC Gold Tower, Emerald Ave.,Ortigas FA 193.03*** *Min Bid - P 7,200,000*
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25 H&L/L8 B4,S Osmena St Villa Elisa Subd, Imus/LA 66 5 / FA 59 *Min Bid - P430,000*
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27 H&L/L1 B5, Regatta West Subd Bukandala, Imus LA 62 / FA 35 *Min Bid - P420,000*

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QUEZON
29 H&L/L17 B3, Lakandula St Tuazon Subd, Tayabas LA 180 FA 165 *Min Bid - P895,000*
30 Lot/L15 B7, Olive St ,Grenville Subd, Ayub, Lucban/LA 150 *Min Bid - P320,000*

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31 H&L /JT Vergara St, JestraVillas, Valley 3, San Antonio, P'que LA 200 / FA 233 *Min Bid - P3,400,000*
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40 L58 Blk 50 / LA 767 *Min Bid - P2,915,000*
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42 L31 Blk 30 / LA 858 *Min Bid - P3,265,000*
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44 L23 Blk 49 / LA 579 *Min Bid - P1,737,000*
45 L59 Blk 50 / LA 513 *Min Bid - P1,539,000*
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51 Lot-L12 B2 / LA 70 *Min Bid - P100,000*
52 Lot-L14 B2 / LA 70 *Min Bid - P100,000*

TARLAC
53 H&L/Lots 2,3,13 & 14 B32, San Rafael Homesite, TLA 1,164 / FA 219 62 *Min Bid - P3,160,000*

TAYTAY
54 Res Bldg/Road Lot 4, Ciudad Del Sol II Bgy. Sta Ana LA 137 50 / FA 65 *Min Bid - P980,000*

COMMERCIAL

MAKATI
55 Lot/Lot 1-B & Lot 2-B, Buendia Ave corner Marconi St /TLA 472 *Min Bid - P16,200,000*

VALENZUELA
56 Ind'l Lot/Bo Lingunan LA 7,841 *Min Bid - P2,800,000*

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58 Lot/L4-B, Panganiban St cor Rizal Sts/LA 1,102 *Min Bid - P 11,424,120*
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63 Agr'l Land/Lots 2974-A-45, Maycayan, Cuyapo / LA 1,000 *Min Bid - P25,000*

QUEZON CITY
64 Ofc/Whse-No 399 Del Monte Avenue, Brgy Manresa, near Banawe TLA 2,401 3 / FA 487 *Min Bid - P65,000,000*
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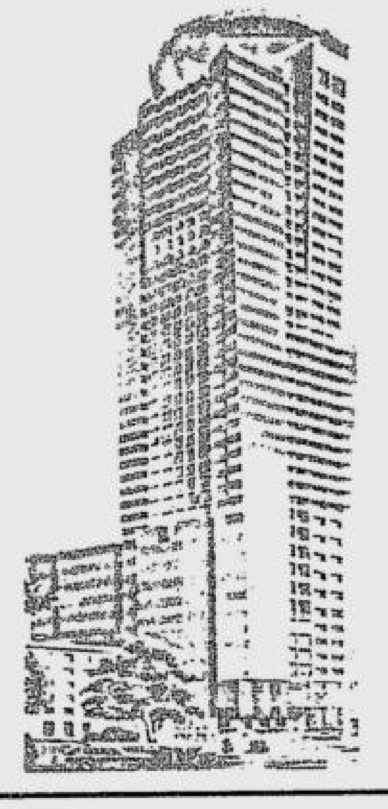

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NR LA SALLE TAFT Twnhse/3stry/3br/3tb/grge P3.618M 8903461 loc 34

Taft Avenue Near La Salle 1.4M FF 1BR 09196781363

MANDALUYONG

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PASAY

BALAGTAS VILLAS THSE 3STY 3BR 4TB 2CG 146M FA BALAGTAS COR. LEVERIZA NEAR DLSU HPLAZA CBANK 24HR SECURITY SWIM POOL P4.8M Call 0917-5331431

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ORTIGAS CENTER RESIDENCIA 8888 (a) 4BR FA184m² FF Park Pool, (b) 3BR FA124m² FF Park Ed-6871699, 0917-8124693, Elmer 637-9121

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Renaissance Tower Ortigas w/parking furnished P4.5M Liza 4261154/09179431026

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

CONDO/TWNHSE

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Townhse/Dplx LA 160/FA 306 m2
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TWO UNITS LEFT
- Spanish Style
- 4 BRs, 4 T&B, LR, DR
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4BR Nr N. Mla 4M 727-4840

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Milen Bldg.A 1.4M 4538746

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Nr Ateneo 1.8M 80m² 3BR 3TB Pkg Slot 09196781363

Nr Ateneo P3M 09164339473

ReSale Eastwood City Stdio 123BR 0917-4149898

T/Hse Nr. Ateneo 426-0189

TWNHSE NEAR UP/ATENEO FA210M² 3BR 2CAR GRGE BESIDE GOLF 0917-8940482

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QUEZON CITY

RUSH SALE! 4sty. 6drs/res 2drs comm'l 7812493-94

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

LOT

KALOOCAN

BF HOMES Caloocan LA279m² P5,376/m² Vic 8903461 loc. 25

RAINBOW VILLAGE 5 LA216m² P3,703/m² Vic 8903461 loc. 25

MANILA

Castanos Sampaloc 330m² T-9356342/0917-8122984

MARIKINA

Marikina 180 & 360 sqm P3800/sm Contact Joseph Tel. 0917-6083041

Vermont Royale 1000m² 645-8757

MUNTINLUPA

PLEASANT VILL w/proposed rd direct to FILINVEST ALABANG 477m² P3,960/m² SOUTH GREENHEIGHTS VILL 300m² P3,833/m² Vic 8903461 loc. 25/27

PARANAQUE

SALE 97 TERRANO A1 COND 842-8335 END-USER ONLY

PASIG

GREENPARK 211m² 645-8757

Greenwoods Ph1 P5T/sqm 65-200sqm P50T D/P 655-3703

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QUEZON CITY

• A CHANCE TO OWN !! •NEAR UP ATENEO MIRIAMI 473-714M² 09175320224 DBO

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CPTL GOLF SUBD NR AYALA HTS 2000m² 09178991581

FILINVEST 1 394m² cor Lot Best Buy 09177464981

★AMPARO 30m²@P2500 nr SM Lagro 4104577

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370-740 Fairway Lots

★ Ferndale QC ★
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★Various Lot frm Subic 2 Sta. Cruz, Zambales pl. 09197437410

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•Overlooking Taal•
Alng Hiway with Free Club-Share 15%down 2Yrs No Int 24Hrs Security 9119482

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TOWN & COUNTRY HILLS LA240sqm P3,125/sqm Vic 8903461 Loc. 27

BATANGAS

•LIPA FARM 09164339473

TAAL Btngs 200m from Diversion Rd LA6794m² P186/m² Vic 8903461 loc. 27

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

LOT

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Canyon Woods Lots Tagaytay • 534-6610 • Jojo

MetroSouth Subd. Gen. Trias 161m² P2,600/m² Tel. 838-4893

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TAGUIG

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HERITAGE 7120038/0270/0229

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PLARIDEL,BULACAN 2HA OR 1501SQM W/MANGO TREES BENG 931-4466 or 912-4573

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★SUBIC 48has@200/m² nego, w/fruit trees 047-9134120

LAGUNA FARM • 727-1016

TAAL Btngs 200m from Diversion Rd LA6794m² P186/m² Vic 8903461 loc. 27

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HOUSE

ALABANG

HOUSE 4 RENT AAV 3BDRMS 3TB F/F TEL 8071133 P 60T

LAS PINAS

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MARIKINA

Monte Vista Subd 6819407

MUNTINLUPA

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PARANAQUE

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Bung 3BR 2TB Drvrs/Mds Qtr 638-8457 • 0916-5709073

PROVINCIAL

BAGUIO DLY FF 09170991581

CONDO/TWNHSE

ALABANG

ASPEN TOWER 1BDRM F/F P45T TEL 8071133

MAKATI

Palm Village Nr. Rockwell 3BR 21T/mo. 0917-3955738

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

CONDO/TWNHSE

MAKATI

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PARANAQUE

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17D North Rd Cubao nr Edsa 2BR 2TB with Attic Garage Call 723-7351 ; 415-8141

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Condotel In T.Morato QC 1BR Furn Nice & Cozy P1200/nite 0917-5341014

NR ABS CBN 1BR 4167722

Nr Munoz Market Edsa 3br2tb P13500/mo. 414-5596 Neth

APARTMENT

LAS PINAS

2BR Nr UPHR T8743395

MAKATI

2BR 1TB w/tel & garage 4583 Baron St. Makati 13T Call 890-0739 / 897-6106

APT 2BR YAGUE ST. 8974619

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MANILA

5 Units Apt. Sta. Mesa U/D 7154506

MANDALUYONG

HWYHILS 2BR U/D 8212091

PARANAQUE

2BR MNWLK #5275941/5241365

QUEZON CITY

23D 8th Ave. Cubao P9,800 Scrnd w/ Tel Pkg. 9275727

2BR DTirona Proj4 421-6693

CUBAO Female P3.5 9124420

Room for 3 persons P4T/mo 20 Imperial Cubao 4212838

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5 Yrs 2 Pay FREE! Interest
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MAKATI

RES/OFC 4BR3TB 8974619

HOUSE & LOT

4BR 2TB 606 MOONWALK PARANAQUE CALL CORA 09178399870 2776050 BEL 9230380

QUEZON CITY

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2% w/oTaking Car 7221021

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BILLIARDS P30/33/36/38T A1 Qlty B.New 8020566/8014494

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SECRETARY 9517580-81

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HRD PERSONNEL 09173660641 FATIMA

HRD STAFF 4260029-30

OFC PERSONNEL 09207692798 FLOR

OFC Personnel 09164894621 Bayl HRD Staff 09196541756 Rally

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Ofc Staff 551-2388 Ms. Yna

OFC STAFF 9134470 CATHY

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LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is given that estate of late JOSE V. TUBIG who died intestate was extrajudicially settled by his heirs per Doc 302; Page 62; Book II; Series of 2002 before Notary Public Gregoria B. Borres Sr. of Quezon City.
PDI-Nov 17, 24 & Dec 1, 2002

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE ESTATE OF THE LATE ISIDORA CASUSI WAS EXTRAJUDICIALLY SETTLED BETWEEN HER HEIRS PER DOC. NO. 452, PAGE NO. 91, BOOK NO. XIV, SERIES OF 2002 BEFORE NOTARY PUBLIC CARLOS GAVIOLA OF QUEZON CITY (PDI-NOV. 10, 17 & 24, 2002)

Notice is hereby given that the estate of ROMEO R ARBIS was extrajudicially settled among his heirs per Doc No. 173; Page No. 86; Book No. 53; Series of 2002 of Notary Public Mario G Ramos of Manila City
PDI-Nov. 24 & Dec. 1 & 8, 2002

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late FABIAN A. ANGKICO SR. has been extrajudicially settled by his heirs for the sale of land covered by tax declaration Nos. 97-48621 and 97-48622. (PDI-Nov. 10, 17 and 24, 2002.)

Notice is hereby given that the estate of SALUD N. ABEJO has been extra-judicially settled thru self-adjudication by her sole heir as per Doc. No. 285, Page No. 58 Book No. XIII Series of 2001 under Rodello R. Punzalan of Quezon City, Notary Public.
(PDI- Nov. 17, 24, Dec. 1, 2002)

Notice is hereby given that the state of the late Felisa J. Lagdameo had been extra judicially settled among the heirs per Doc. No. 289 Page No. 58, Book V Series of 2002 before notary public Marcelino B. Jornales of Naga City

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

INVITATION TO A BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

A Company engaged in the production of new bottled water brands seeks distribution partners in the following areas:

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4. Lipa City	4. Cabanatuan City
5. San Pablo City	5. Baguio City
6. Lucena City	6. Olongapo City
7. Naga City	
8. Legazpi City	

Visayas	Mindanao
1. Cebu City	1. Davao City
2. Iloilo City	2. Cagayan de Oro City
3. Bacolod City	3. Gen. Santos City
	4. Zamboanga City

Metro Manila

1. Parañaque	7. Pasay City
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3. Quezon City	9. San Juan
5. Muntinlupa City	10. Mandaluyong
6. Caloocan	11. Taguig
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PUBLIC NOTICES

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May the most Sacred Heart of Jesus be Praised, Blessed, Loved, Adored and Glorified throughout the whole world now and forever. Amen.
Most Sacred Heart of Jesus. Pray for us.
St. Jude Worker of Miracles, helper for the helpless Pray for us.
Say nine times a day for nine days. Prayer will be answered by the eight day, It has never failed.
Thank You very much, Most Sacred Heart of Jesus and St. Jude, for favor granted.-C.B.

PRAYER TO BLESSED MOTHER
(NEVER KNOWN TO FAIL)
Oh most beautiful flower of Mount Carmel, fruitful vine splendor of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in my necessity. Oh star of the sea, help me and show herein you are my Mother. Oh Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly beseech You from the bottom of My Heart to succor me in this necessity. There are none that can withstand Your power. Oh Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recoursed to thee (3x). Holy Mother, I place this course in your hands (3x). Sweet Mother, I place this course in Your hands (3x). Holy Spirit, You who solve all problems so that I can attain my goal. You who gave me the divine gift to forgive and forget all evil against me and that in all instances in my life You are with me. I want this short prayer. Thank you for all things as I confirm once again that I never want to be separated from You in eternal glory. Thank you for Your mercy towards me and mine. The person must say this prayer 3 consecutive days. After 3 days the request will be granted. This prayer must be published after the favor is granted.
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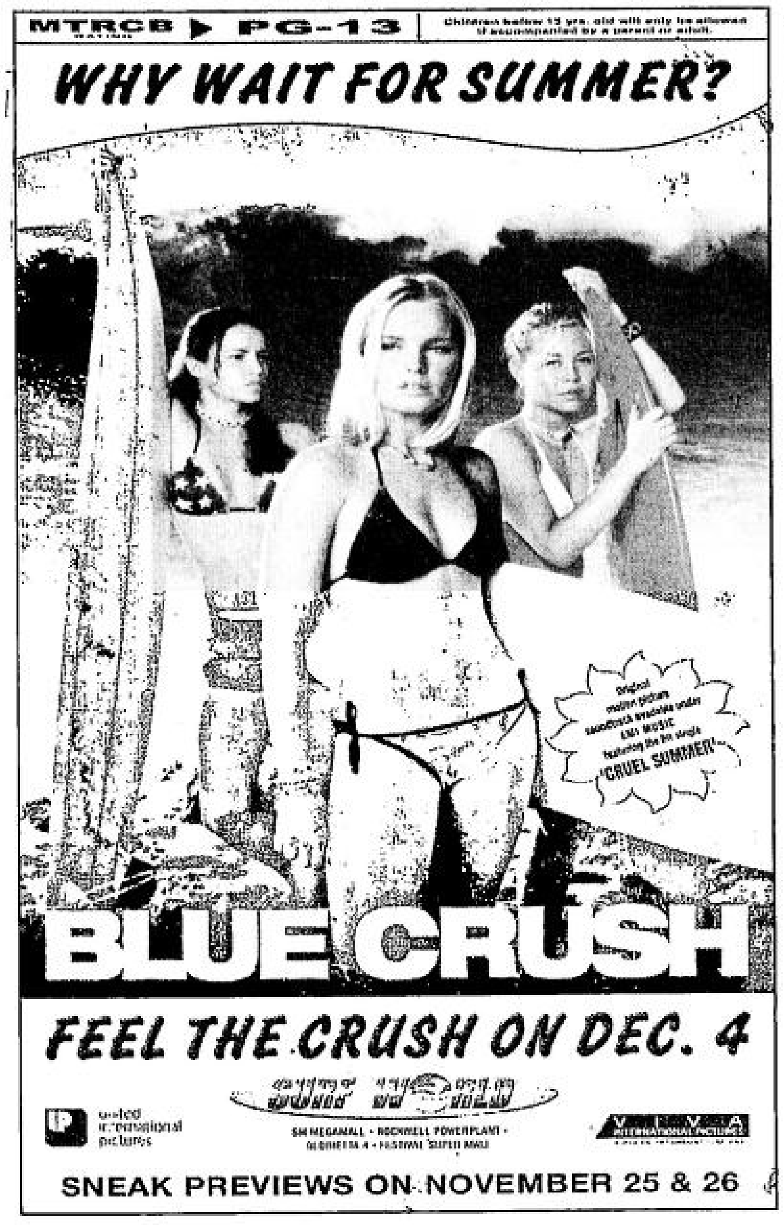
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CLOCKSTOPPER **P13** 11:35, 1:40, 3:45, 5:50, 7:55, 10:00	**MASTER OF DISGUISE** **GP** 12:40,2:30,4:20, 6:10,8:00,9:50	**HARRY POTTER & THE CHAMBER OF SECRETS** **GP** 12:30,3:40,6:50,10:00
HARRY POTTER & THE CHAMBER OF SECRETS **GP** 11:50,3:00,6:10,9:20	**HARRY POTTER & THE CHAMBER OF SECRETS** **GP** 11:10,2:20,5:30,8:40	**HARRY POTTER & THE CHAMBER OF SECRETS** **GP** 1:10,4:20,7:30,10:40

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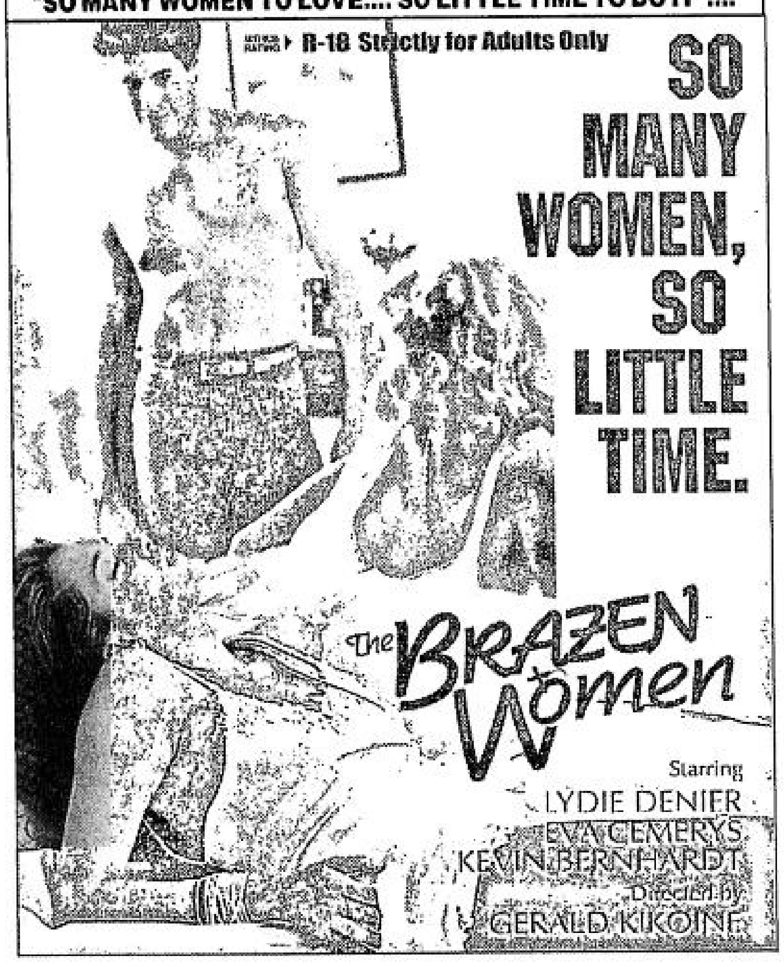
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Starring
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EVA CEMERYS
KEVIN BERNHARDT
Directed by
GERALD KIKOINE

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Ama ni Clara.
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Kasintahan ni Isabel.
Sabik sa pagmamahal, ngunit bigo sa nobya.
Hanggang kailan siya maghihintay?
Si Rica Peralejo bilang ISABEL
Inosente. Mapagtiwala.
Gaano kaya niya katagal mapananatili ang maayos at simple niyang buhay?

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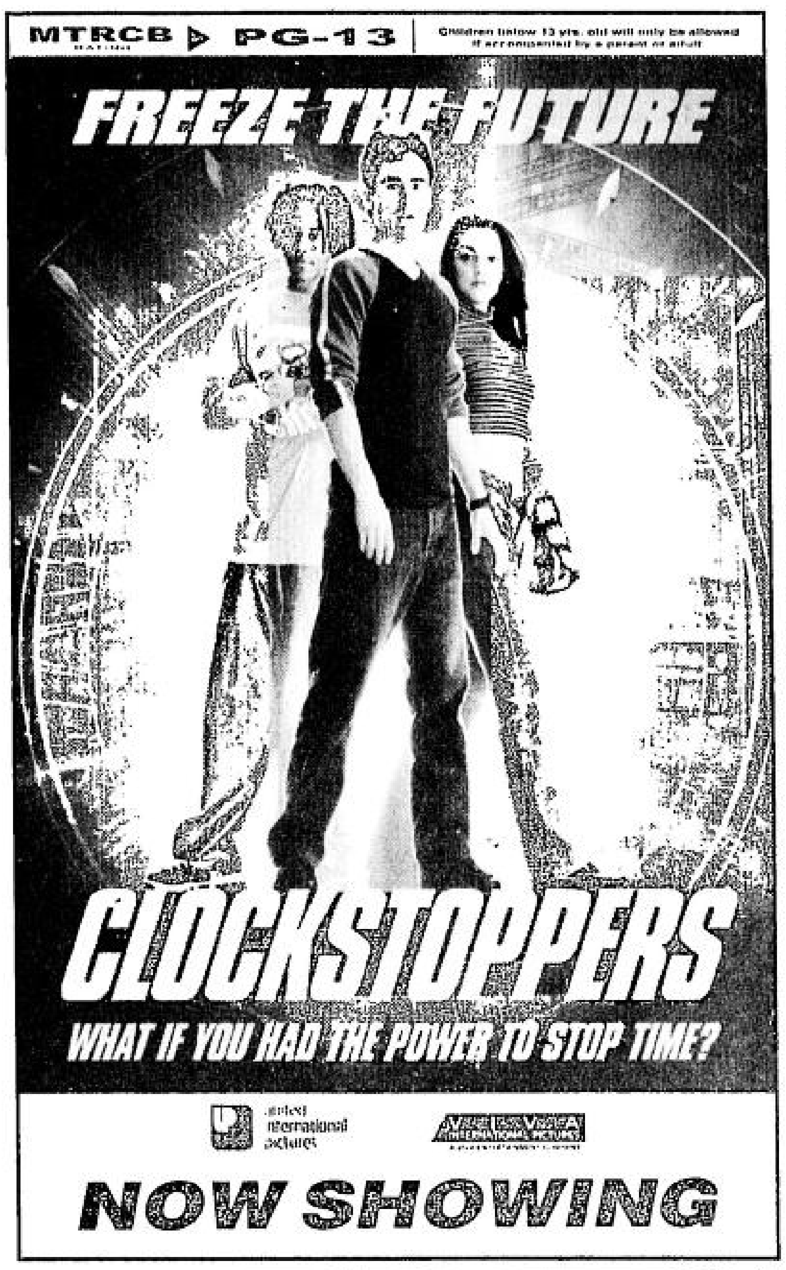
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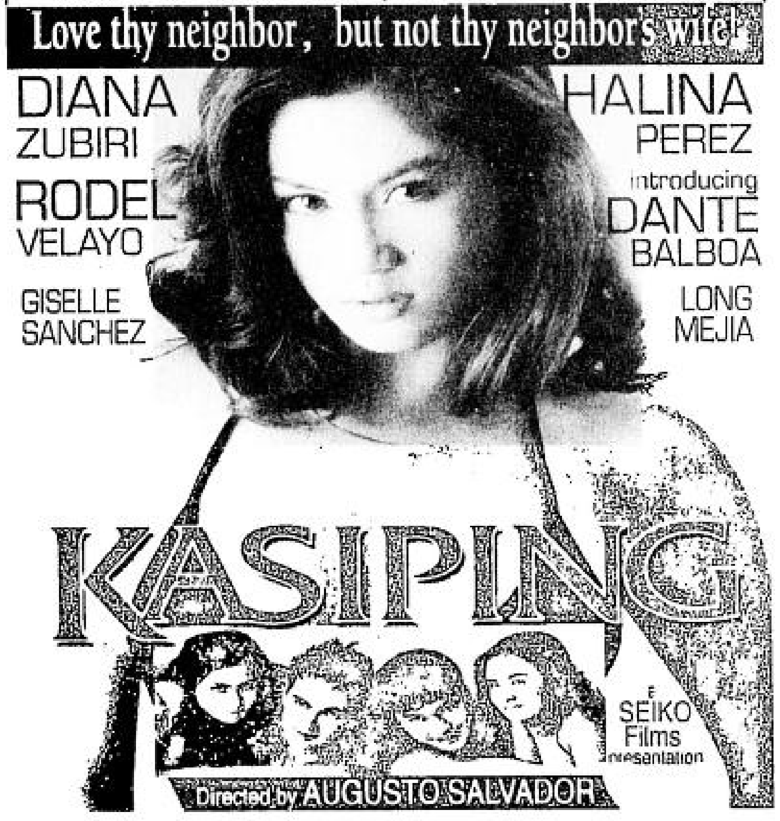

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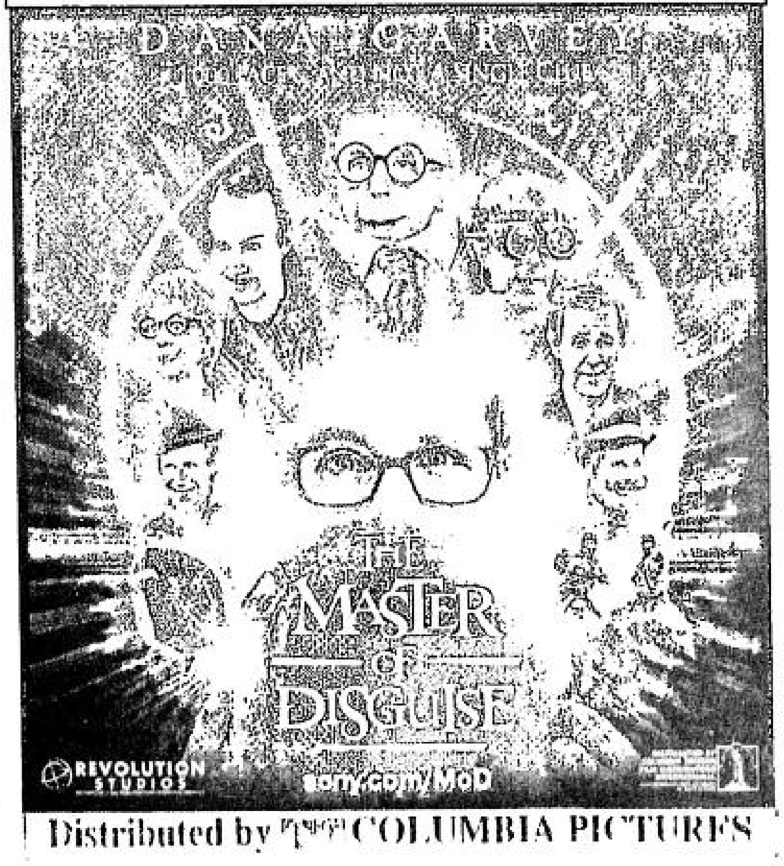

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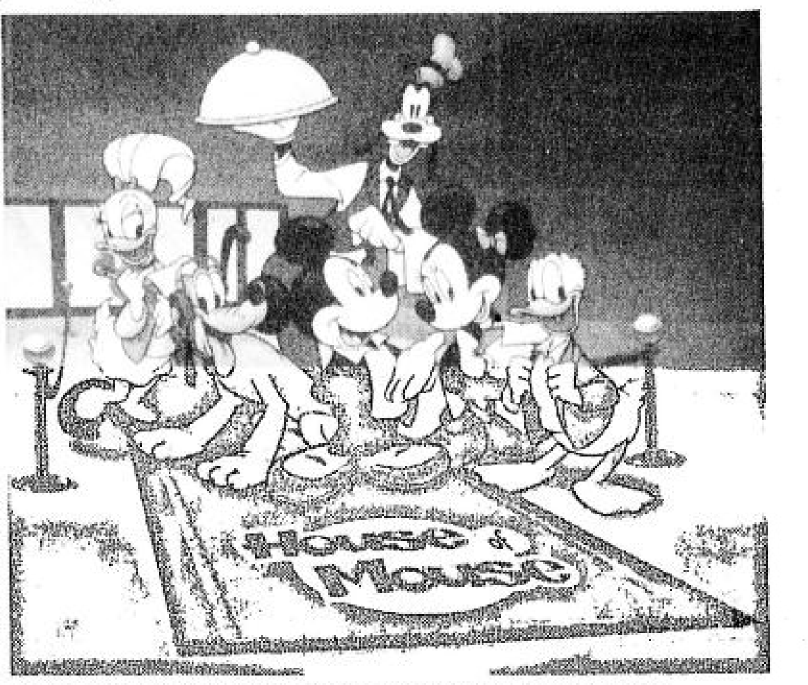


"HOUSE OF MOUSE." Features favorite Disney characters.

Disney Channel unveils November highlights

THE DISNEY Channel is stronger than ever as it unveils its November highlights that are guaranteed to bring to the family more "everyday magic, magic everyday."

First up is Disney's "House of Mouse," which returns with a brand new season that promises more antics and laughter for the whole family, featuring favorite Disney characters.

Billed as the "tooniest place on Earth," Disney's House of Mouse is the gathering place for animated characters each Saturday, 11:30 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Hosted by Mickey Mouse and his longtime quintet of pals, Minnie Mouse, Donald Duck, Daisy Duck, Goofy and Pluto, Disney's "House of Mouse" is set as a "nightclub" where guests like Winnie The Pooh, Jiminy Cricket and Jafar come in to enjoy the featured musical, cartoon shorts and the comical introductions done by the hosts.

Meanwhile new episodes fill up "America's Funniest Home Videos" in the Disney Channel. Daisy Fuentes and John Fugelsang introduce funny home footage that are guaranteed to generate laughter from the whole family.

"America's Funniest Home Videos" airs weekdays at 9 p.m. and weekends at 10:30 p.m.

Disney Channel also airs its exciting pre-school block "Playhouse Disney," that does not only entertain kids but also let their imagination and creativity grow. The program is hosted by Jason and Monica. Included in "Playhouse Disney" is "The Book of Pooh," the first TV program that combines the 300-year-old art of Japanese Bunraku puppetry, with newly developed computer-generated visual sets.

Follow the lovable characters of the Hundred Acre Woods as they have fun, adventure and learn lessons about friendship and family.

Also in "Playhouse Disney" are Rolie Polie Olie, which is about the adventures of a friendly six-year old robot, and Stanley, an animated show that follows the antics of an extremely imaginative and creative boy named Stanley who is wild about animals.

The Emmy nominated series "Madeline" is also shown in the "Playhouse Disney" block.

"Madeline" tells the story of an adorable clever redheaded girl who lives with eleven other girls at a boarding school in Paris.

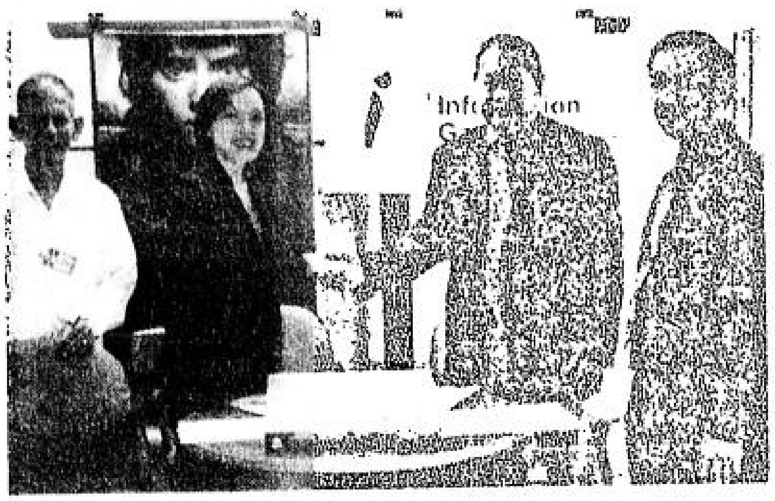
Other shows in "Playhouse Disney," which airs weekdays from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 to 4 p.m. are "Bananas in Pajamas" and "Bear in the Big Blue House."

THEATER MOVIE GUIDE

MANILA	
EASTERN	
MAXIM	CLOSED
MIRAMAR	TUKAHAN / BIRTHDAY GIRL
ODEON	GISING NA SI ADAN
ODEON-2	ALIPIN SA TUKSO / GALING GALING MO BABES
ROBEN	HIBLA
TANDEM-1	SUGAT
TANDEM-2	KATAWAN MO LANGIT KO
TIMES	[illegible]
QUEZON CITY	
ACT-1	SENSUAL ISLAND
ACT-2	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
ACT-3	ORIGINAL SIN
ACT-4	HANGGANG KAILAN KA PAPATAY
CORONET-2	HANGGANG KAILAN KA PAPATAY
QUEZON-1	GISING NA SI ADAN
REMAR	BIYAHERA
REMAR-2	GISING NA SI ADAN
NOVA MALL - NOVALICHES CINEMA	
A	HIBLA
B	GISING NA SI ADAN
C	
MANDALUYONG CITY	
SHANGRI-LA PLAZA MALL	635-20-79 / 633-78-51 TO 70
CINEMA-1	THE TRANSPORTER
CINEMA-2	HARRY POTTER 2
CAINTA RIZAL	
STA. LUCIA EAST	(681-5401 TO 19)
CINEMA-1	GISING NA SI ADAN
CINEMA-2	BIYAHERA
CINEMA-3	KAILANGAN KITA
CINEMA-4 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	HARRY POTTER
CINEMA-5 (DTS)	GHOST SHIP
CINEMA-6	SEX FILES
CINEMA-7	MASARAP NA PUGAC
CINEMA-8	HARRY POTTER
CINEMA-9 (DTS)	HARRY POTTER
CINEMA-10 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	HARRY POTTER
CINEMA-11 (SDDS)	CLOCK STOPPERS
CINEMA-12	HIBLA
CINEMA-14	BARZEN WOMEN
CINEMA-15	KAILANGAN KITA
LORES	
CINEMA-2	SENSUAL ISLAND
CINEMA-3	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
NE CINEMAGIC - CABANATUAN	
CINEMA 1	MR DEEDS
CINEMA 2	9 MORNINGS
CINEMA 3	BESTMAN
CINEMA 4	[illegible]
UNIWIDE COASTAL MALL	
(PARANAQUE)	SENSUAL ISLAND
CINEMA-1	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
CINEMA-2	MEN IN BLACK II
CINEMA-4	SELDA

Araneta Center
ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

ALI MALL CINEPLEX 7	
Ali 1	KAILANGAN KITA
Ali 2	HIBLA
Ali 3	TRANSPORTER
Ali 4	HARRY POTTER 2
Ali 5	GHOST SHIP
Ali 6	BRAZEN WOMEN
Ali 7	BIYAHERA
FARMERS PLAZA CINEMAS	
Farmers 1	GISING NA SI ADAN
Farmers 2	HARRY POTTER 2
ARANETA COLISEUM	
NOV 24	PBA GAMES
DEC. 4	ANAK LAUNCH
DEC. 9 & 11	NCA DERBY
ELEPHANT WORLD	
NOV 24	3 PM
NOV 25	10 AM / 3 PM



'LORD OF THE RINGS' TO MOBILE PHONES

Information Gateway secures the license to create wireless applications for "Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers," from New Line Cinema. Over the past 18 months, IG has led the industry in creating innovative wireless applications based on blockbuster movies including "Spiderman," "Scorpion King" and "The Tuxedo." Shown in photo during the contract signing are Eliza Tan, chief executive officer of Information Gateway and Armando Aquino, president, LCI, representing New Line Cinema. Also in photo are Conrado Villajuan, LCI senior vice president; and Juanito A. Manzano, LCI executive vice president and general manager.

Ricky gives holiday tips on TV program

"BEAUTY Plus," the top-rated and award-winning lifestyle show hosted by beauty expert and salon chain magnate Ricky Reyes, continues to give tips for the Yuletide season, 11 a.m. to 12 noon today on RPN 9. Cris Aquino directs.

Sexy star Selina Sevilla displays celebrity Christmas decors in "Straight from the Expert."

Chingay Riego demonstrates how to make celebrity Christmas balls with colorful Chinese lucky envelopes or *ampaw* in "Tele-Negosyo."

Reyes is now in Saipan, where he has been invited by Jose Pepito Digno, president of the Saipan Unity Lions Club, to grace a big hairdressers' event participated in by Filipinos based in the Micronesia Group of Islands until Nov. 25.

Reyes' itinerary includes a courtesy call with the Philippines Consulate in Saipan, ribbon-cutting and speaking engagement in Saipan's multi-purpose building, conducting a seminar on the latest hairstyle and make-up trends and acting as guest of honor.

He will also be one of the judges in the competition.

Winners in the event will compete in the 7th APCA Hair Olympics to be held in Manila, May 20 and 21, sponsored by Fil-Hair Co-op.

REYES

Xmas tree lighting

ABS-CBN and Star Records artists will lend glitter to the giant Christmas tree lighting ceremony at the Araneta Center today.

The ceremony, which has become the highlight of Araneta Center's Christmas celebration, will kick off at 6 p.m. with the lighting of the giant Christmas tree, to be led by the stars of ABS-CBN's newest primetime soap, "Bituin," Nora Aunor and Carol Banawa.

The event will be spiced up by entertainment numbers from the ABS-CBN and Star Records artists.

Dingdong Avanzado, Jessa Zaragoza, Tootsie Guevara and Diane dela Fuente will bring back musical memories of old in their Kundiman-inspired number, followed by Jamie Rivera who will lend the event a touch of spirituality with her rendition of "Only Selfless Love," the theme of the World Meeting of Families in January 2003.

—THE—
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18 ADB Avenue, Ortigas Center, Mandaluyong City
Tel : 638 9781 - 85 • 633 8976

1 HARRY POTTER AND THE CHAMBER OF SECRETS	12:30 FS/1:00 MF/4:20/7:40/10:30 LFS/11:00 LMF/1:50 END
2 CLOCKSTOPPERS	11:00 FS/11:10 MF/1:10/3:10/5:10/7:10/9:10/10:40 LFS/11:00 LMF/12:35 END

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Matinee P100.00 - Screening until 5pm • Monday thru Friday
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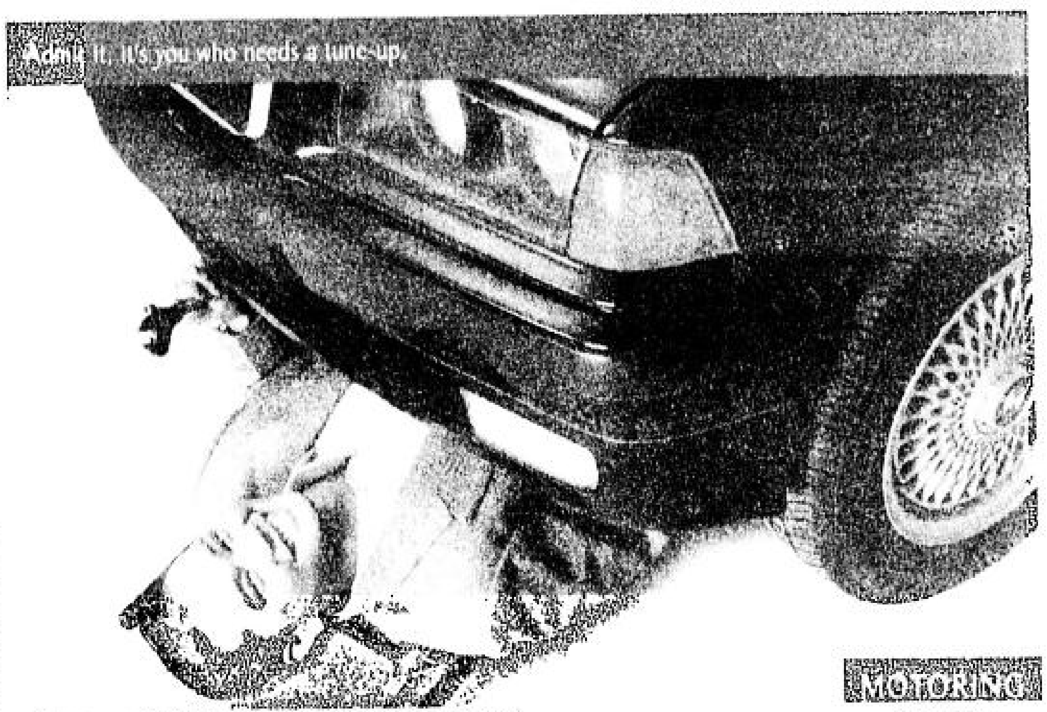

Brush up on everything from car care tips to automotive launches and innovations.'
That's [illegible] and a million others reading the PDI, on and off the road
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Special SECTIONS

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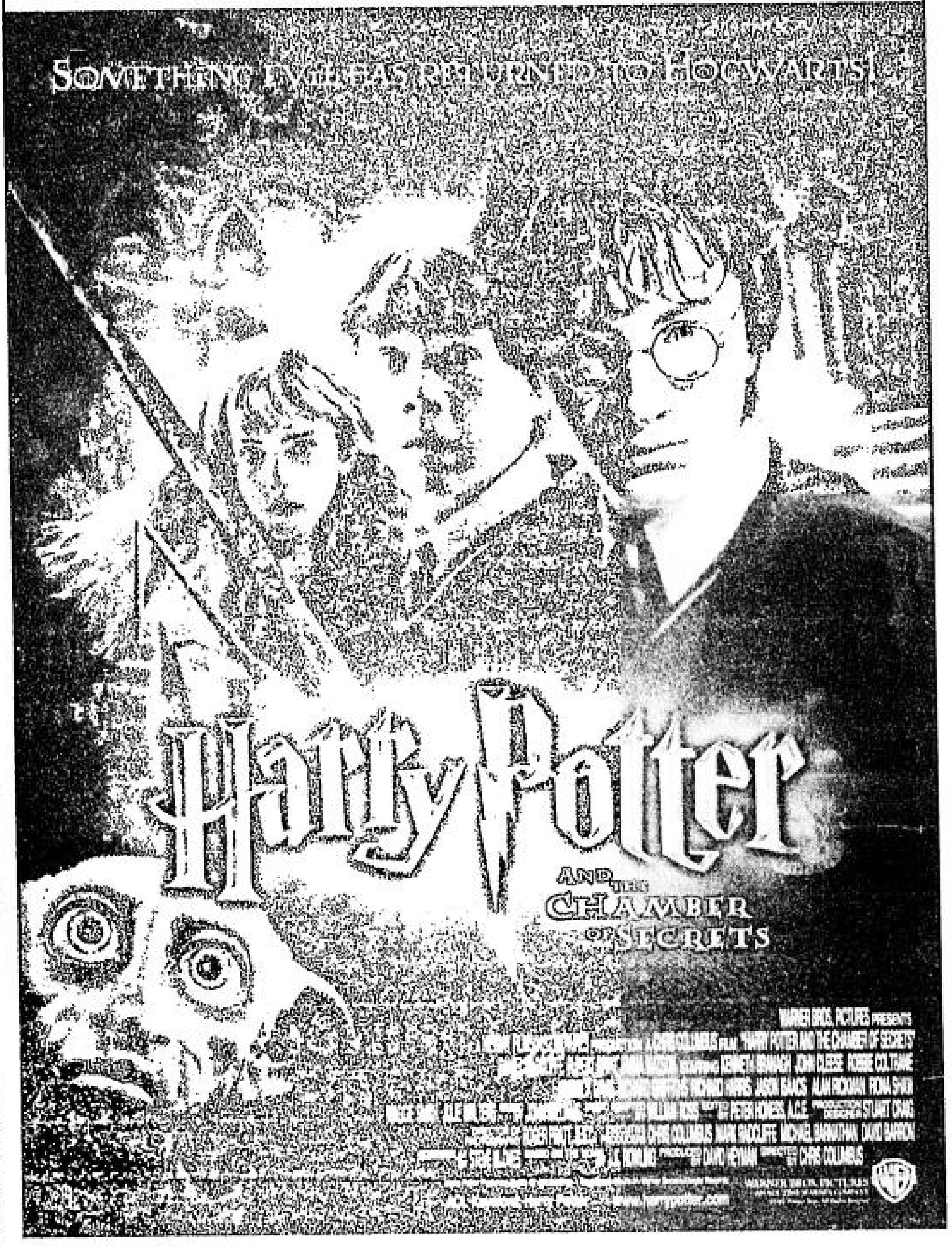
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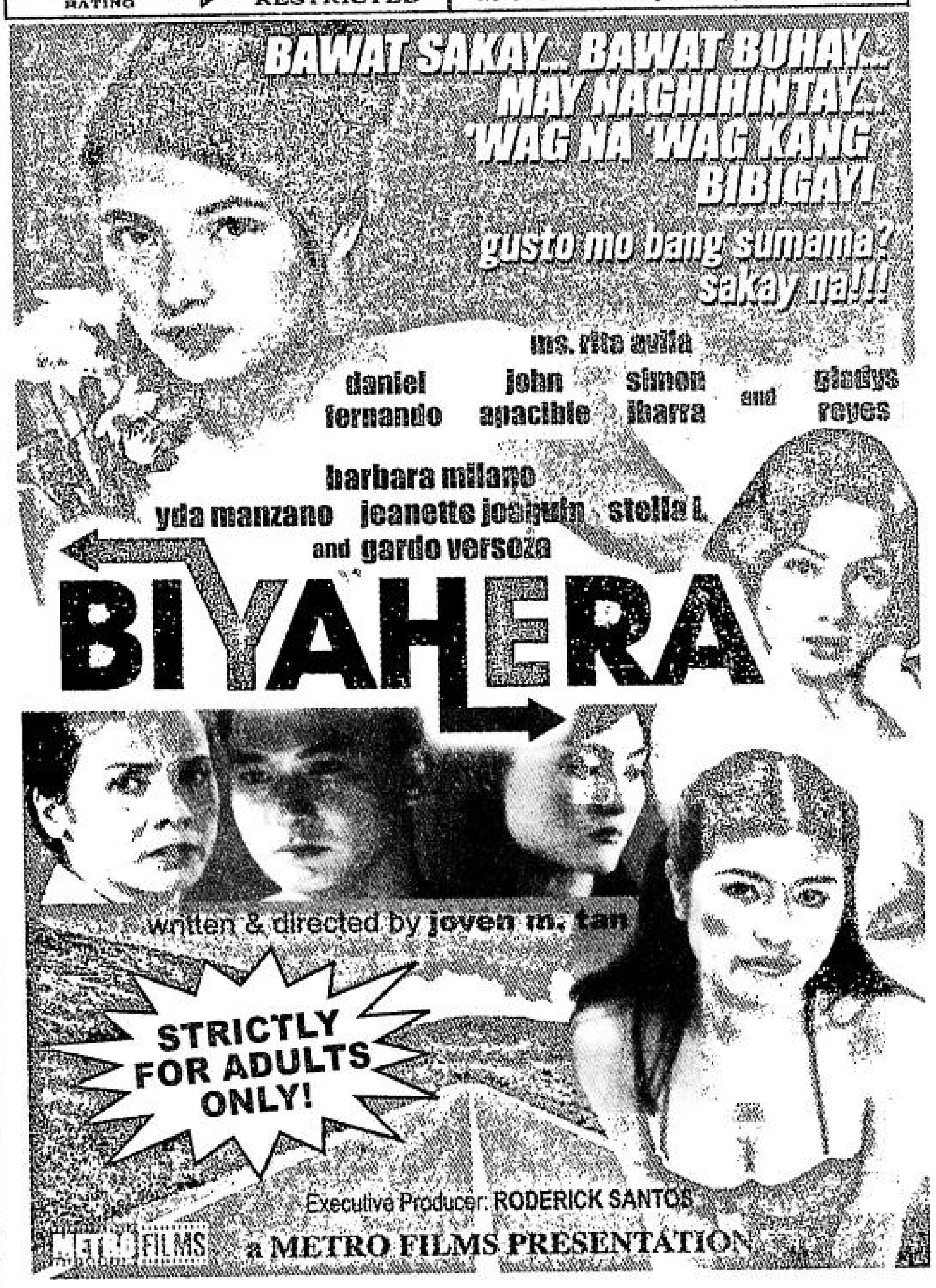
BAWAT SAKAY... BAWAT BUHAY... MAY NAGHIHINTAY... 'WAG NA 'WAG KANG BIBIGAY!
gusto mo bang sumama? sakay na!!!
ms. rita avila
daniel fernando
john apacible
simon ibarra
and
gladys reyes
barbara milano
yda manzano
jeanette joaquin
stella l.
and gardo versoza
BIYAHERA
written & directed by joven m. tan
STRICTLY FOR ADULTS ONLY!
Executive Producer: RODERICK SANTOS
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a METRO FILMS PRESENTATION

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ALL DIGITAL SOUND CINEMAS

G1 GLORIETTA 1	G4 GLORIETTA 4	GB1 GREENBELT 1	GB3 GREENBELT 3	ATC ALABANG TOWN CENTER
HIBLA	HARRY POTTER & THE CHAMBER OF SECRETS MASTER OF DISGUISE	STOLEN SUMMER (EXCLUSIVE) 11:55, 1:50, 3:45, 5:40, 7:35, 9:30	HARRY POTTER & THE CHAMBER OF SECRETS 1:30, 2:50, 6:10, 9:30	HARRY POTTER & THE CHAMBER OF SECRETS
KAILANGAN KITA	HARRY POTTER & THE CHAMBER OF SECRETS 12:20, 3:40, 7:00, 10:20	HARRY POTTER & THE CHAMBER OF SECRETS 11:30, 2:50, 6:10, 9:30	HARRY POTTER & THE CHAMBER OF SECRETS 1:30, 4:50, 8:10, 11:30	HARRY POTTER & THE CHAMBER OF SECRETS
HARRY POTTER & THE CHAMBER OF SECRETS	CLOCKSTOPPERS KAILANGAN KITA	REGINE VELASQUEZ - SONGBIRD SONGS NOV. 29-30 / DEC 6-7, 13-14, 20-21, 27-28	TRAPPED 1:40, 4:05, 6:30, 8:55, 11:20 MASTER OF DISGUISE 1:30, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30, 9:30, 11:30	HARRY POTTER & THE CHAMBER OF SECRETS MASTER OF DISGUISE
HARRY POTTER & THE CHAMBER OF SECRETS	HARRY POTTER & THE CHAMBER OF SECRETS THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST		CLOCKSTOPPERS 1:30, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30, 9:30, 11:30	CLOCKSTOPPERS

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Ayala Center, Makati City
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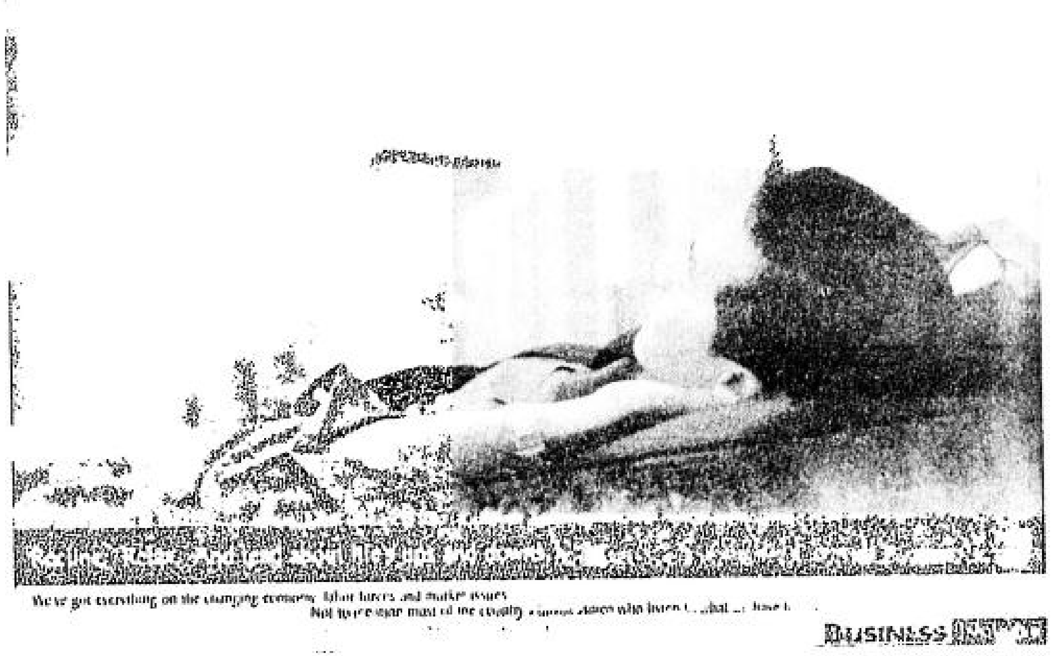

We've got everything on the changing economy, labor forces and market issues.
Not to mention most of the country [illegible]
BUSINESS

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Sunday BIZ

As Ford Foundation doors close, a coalition opens window

MILWIDA Guevara would have made newspaper headlines last February.

The former undersecretary of the Department of Finance (DoF), now Manila program officer of multinational funding agency The Ford Foundation, was caught "doing a Winona Ryder" at a big record bar in Glorietta mall in Makati.

She was deep in thought and emotions listening to the "Romanza" CD of Italian opera singer Andrea Bocelli when she mindlessly sauntered towards the exit door of the record bar. Only when the alarm bells rang did the reality sink in that she forgot to return the disc to its rack and has just shop-lifted. She pleaded her innocence to the security guard, and in front of the crowd at the record bar looking at her with disdain.

Guevara was tempted to argue her case with mall security officers. She had a bad day. She just received news that the New York head office of The Ford Foundation will shut down its office in Manila by September 2003, ending its 50-year presence in the Philippines. The news came barely two weeks after President Macapagal-Arroyo arrived from a US state visit and met President George Bush.

"How could this happen to us at this time?" Guevara said when David Chiel, head of the Foundation's Manila office, relayed the news.

Barely three years ago, Ford asked Guevara to set up the education reform program portfolio in Manila. Guevara was then working as a fiscal expert of the International Monetary Fund in

Kyrgyztan but was aching to return to the country. She thought Ford's offer was the answer to her prayer.

But Sept. 11, 2001 came and the terror attacks on the United States badly hurt its economy, along with that of funding institutions like The Ford Foundation. Its New York office said Ford had to "rationalize" its operations in the region.

The decision dealt a big blow on the more than 150 nongovernment organizations (NGOs) and institutions that have been receiving financial support from the Foundation for five decades. Never in its history, not even during the Martial Law years, has Ford closed its doors in Manila. With the local operations gone, Ford's support to programs in Manila will close.

NGOs and institutions receiving Ford funding for their education reform projects refused to accept the New York verdict. They knew their projects have been making significant impact on the communities they serve—from the dumpsite in Payatas to the hinterlands of Mindanao. Nearly 30 education programs will be severely affected.

John Silva, consultant of the National Museum, whose "I Love Museums" program receives assistance from the Ford Foundation, decided to personally argue the Manila case with Ford Foundation president Susan Berresford.

Dipping into his own pocket, Silva went to the New York headquarters but failed to meet the president. He met the vice president Alison Bernstein who reiterated her deep understanding of the impact of the education programs on improving access of students to quality education.

However, the decision to close the Manila office remained firm.

Guevara also knew Ford's education grantees had to learn to stand up on their own to continue

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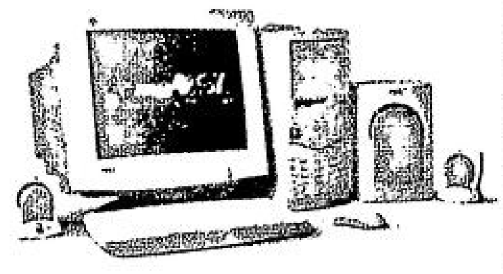

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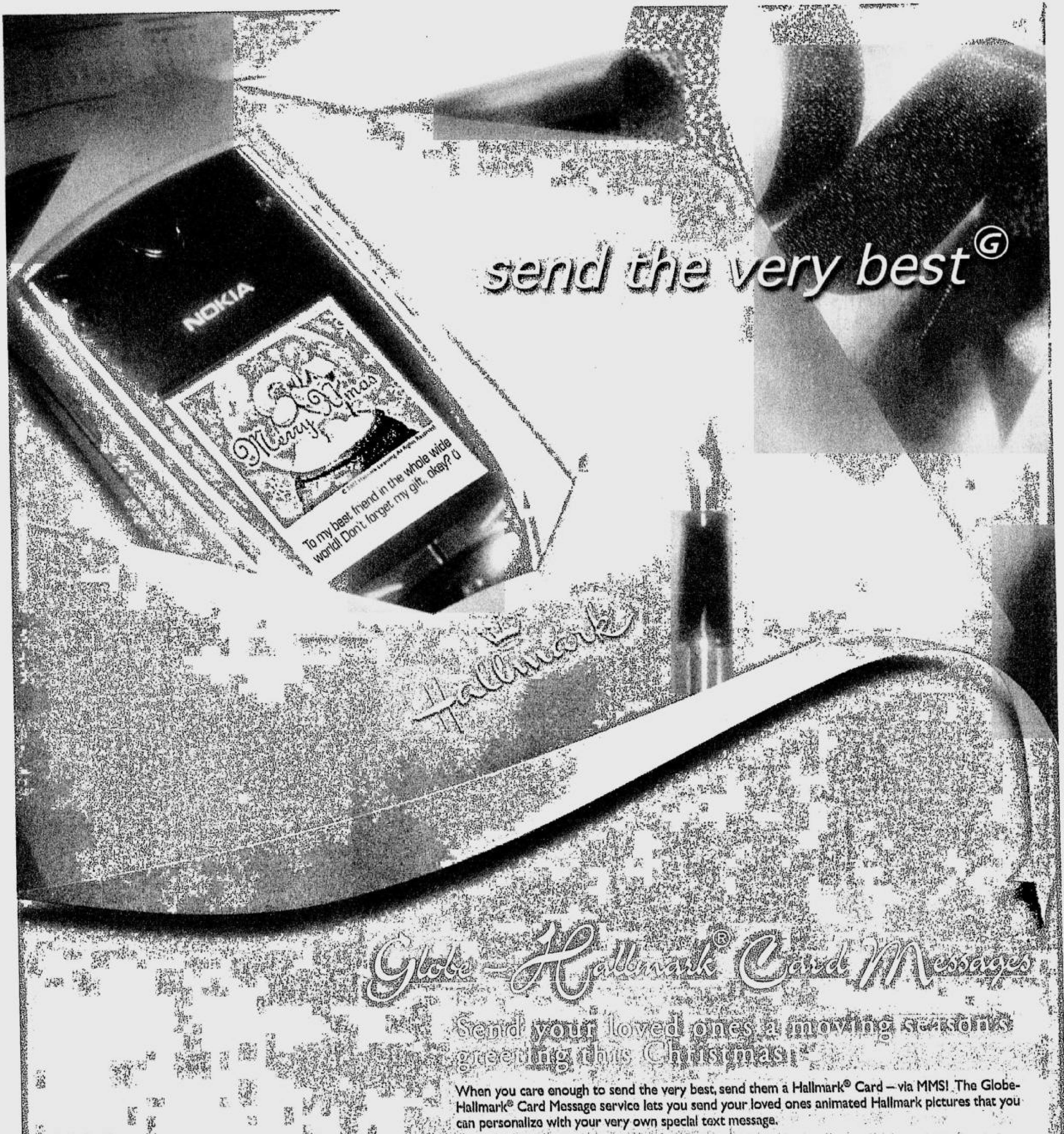
STORY ON PAGE C6

SOLITARY. Karen Montelibano is the singular model in Jun de Leon's photography book 'Suonos'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Devotion to Our Lady of Buen Suceso has origins in Spain

PURELY PERSONAL

Josephine Darang

IN THE BOOK "La Sonrisa dela Virgen," one can find the origin of the devotion to Our Lady of Buen Suceso. The book,"The Smile of the Virgin" in English, which I asked Pol Capistrano to translate, tells of two pious young men who were walking from Madrid all the way to Rome where to seek the Pope's guidance in the establishment of a religious order.

The two men were forced to seek refuge in a small and dirty cave because of a strong typhoon that brought strong winds, heavy rain, lightning and thunder. In a corner, on a hollowed rock, they noticed the beautiful image of the Virgin. She looked alone and abandoned. Brothers Gabriel and Guillermo knelt and prayed for better weather the next day. Realizing that nobody could possibly own the image, the two decided to take the image with them on their journey.

When they were finally received by Pope Paul V, the Holy Father asked if it was part of their tradition to bring the image in their journeys. So Gabriel related how they found the image during the storm.

"May I be allowed to kiss her?" the Holy Father asked. Gabriel put the image in the Pope's hands.

The Pope said, "She is so pretty. Wouldn't you think she is smiling?"

"Yes, no, yes... pardon me, Your Holiness," replied the man.

The Pope said: "Yes, she is smiling. What a good event you have had on your journey. Undoubtedly, Our Lady favors you on your mission. And who am I to oppose, as well."

The Pope continued "Yes, yes, she is smiling. Since she found you on your way, may she permanently be with you."

The two men were so overwhelmed with joy that they almost did not hear what the Holy Father said. They almost jumped for joy saying "thank you, thank you."

Our Lady of Good Events

"Nuestra Señora del Buen Suceso" means Our Lady of Good Events. In Madrid, the image is enthroned at the right side of the main altar of the church on Princesa Street I was blessed to visit the Virgin in November 1997 when Air France and Tac Tours organized a fam tour.

In Metro Manila, you can find her in the church of St. Andrew in La Huerta, Parañaque. Her feast day is on Nov. 29. Novena Masses are ongoing until Nov. 28, 6 a.m. and 6 p.m.

Fiesta day Masses are at 6 a.m, 8 a.m., 10 a.m., 12 nn and 6 p.m., with Bishop Jesse Mercado celebrating. The procession follows immediately after the mass.

The feast of St. Andrew falls on Nov. 30. Masses are at 6 a.m, 7 a.m., 8 a.m. and 9 a.m. Afternoon Masses are at 4 p.m, 5 p.m and 6 p.m., with Msgr. Bayani Valenzuela as celebrant. The procession follows.

Schola Cantorum concert

"Balaoag" in Bicol means gift. The Theology seminarians of the Holy Rosary Major Seminary in Naga are bringing a gift of songs to the people through a concert on Dec. 6, 4 p.m. and 7 p.m., at the Sta. Isabel University auditorium.

The seminarians call themselves Schola Cantorum. They are holding the concert to raise funds for the building of a covered walk from the main gate to the main building of the seminary.

The information was furnished by Sem. Dohn Corre, a native of Imus, Cavite, who found his vocation while being a member of the Marian Choir and the Antioch.

Corre, who is in his last year of theology studies, is committed to becoming a priest. Sharing his feelings are members of the Schola Catorum: (Tenor I) Rex Palaya, Ronald Bardon, Maberto Casida, Sherwin Pasiona, Felbert Reyes and Marcial Zagada; (Tenor II) Dohn Corre, Jesus Alarte, Marion Elnar, Leo Zenarosa, Dekson Teope and Misael Quindo; (Bass I) Denver Tino, Salvador Rojas, Jr., Glenn Colasito, Rommel Dacoco, Demosthenes Olsa and Fernando Catolico; (Bass II) Jay Jacinto, Roger Barbecho, Zandro Quijano, Roque Patanao, Melvyn Gamelo, Jose Naranda and Albert Balderas.

Deacon needs help

A deacon of a religious order, who will be ordained priest on Dec. 7, needs financial help. This column is asking generous readers to assist in his expenses for vestments, chalice and "agape" after the ordination. Those who wish to help can beep me at Easy Call 141-020543. God cannot be outdone in His generosity. He will reward you.

PATH to Holy Rosary Major Seminary in Naga will be repaired

NUESTRA Señora del Buen Suceso

San Agustin concert

San Agustin Museum will present the 4th San Agustin International Music Festival at the historical church of San Agustin, Intramuros, Nov. 26-28. The musical event will showcase the best international organists and Filipino musicians.

This year, internationally renowned organists Juan Maria Pedrero of Spain and Eric Dimson of the Philippines will take center stage as they perform baroque compositions in the 18th century pipe organ of the San Agustin Church at 8 p.m. Call 527-4060.

Parish to rebuild burnt convent

Oct. 27, while Fr. Cesar Macariola was in Tagaytay for a retreat with members of the Parish Pastoral Council, the convent of Resurrection of Our Lord Parish in Brgy. Paltok, San Francisco del Monte, QC burned down due to faulty electrical wiring. The miracle was nobody got killed. Fortunately, the fire occurred in the afternoon. The other miracle was the pilgrim image of Our Lady of Manaoag was brought on Nov. 3, as if Our Lady was assuring the parishioners that she would take care of everything. And she did because the parishioners immediately decided to rebuild the convent. Her presence gave them hope.

On Dec. 1, 8 a.m., Bishop Soc Villegas will say Mass to launch the campaign to raise P5 million. Most parishioners come from the low income bracket, nevertheless they will do what they can. Erlita Unadia donated an image of St. Joseph and it will be placed in the construction site. Those who wish to help can write Fr. Cesar Macariola at Resurrection of Our Lord Parish, Basa Street, SFDM, QC or call 374-2390. Thank you for your kindness.

Mysteries of Light

The Light Mysteries of the Holy Rosary will be said on Thursdays. They are: 1) Baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan; 2) Jesus manifests Himself in the wedding at Cana by performing His first miracle; 3) Jesus' call to conversion; 4) The transfiguration of Jesus; and 5) The institution of the Holy Eucharist.

Prayer rally

On the feast of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal on Nov. 27, St. Vincent de Paul Church on San Marcelino Street, Ermita will hold a "Be not Afraid" prayer rally from 12 nn to 5 p.m. The Holy Mass follows at 6 p.m., with Bishop Nestor Cariño as celebrant. Speakers include Ambassador Howard Dee, Bishop Aniceto and Father Peralta.

The rally of prayers will be aired on Channel 9. The need to pray at this time is great, but let us be assured of the words spoken to Mary by St. Gabriel: "Be not afraid for you have found favor with God."

The rally is a prelude to the National Week of Prayer and Fasting from Dec. 1-7.

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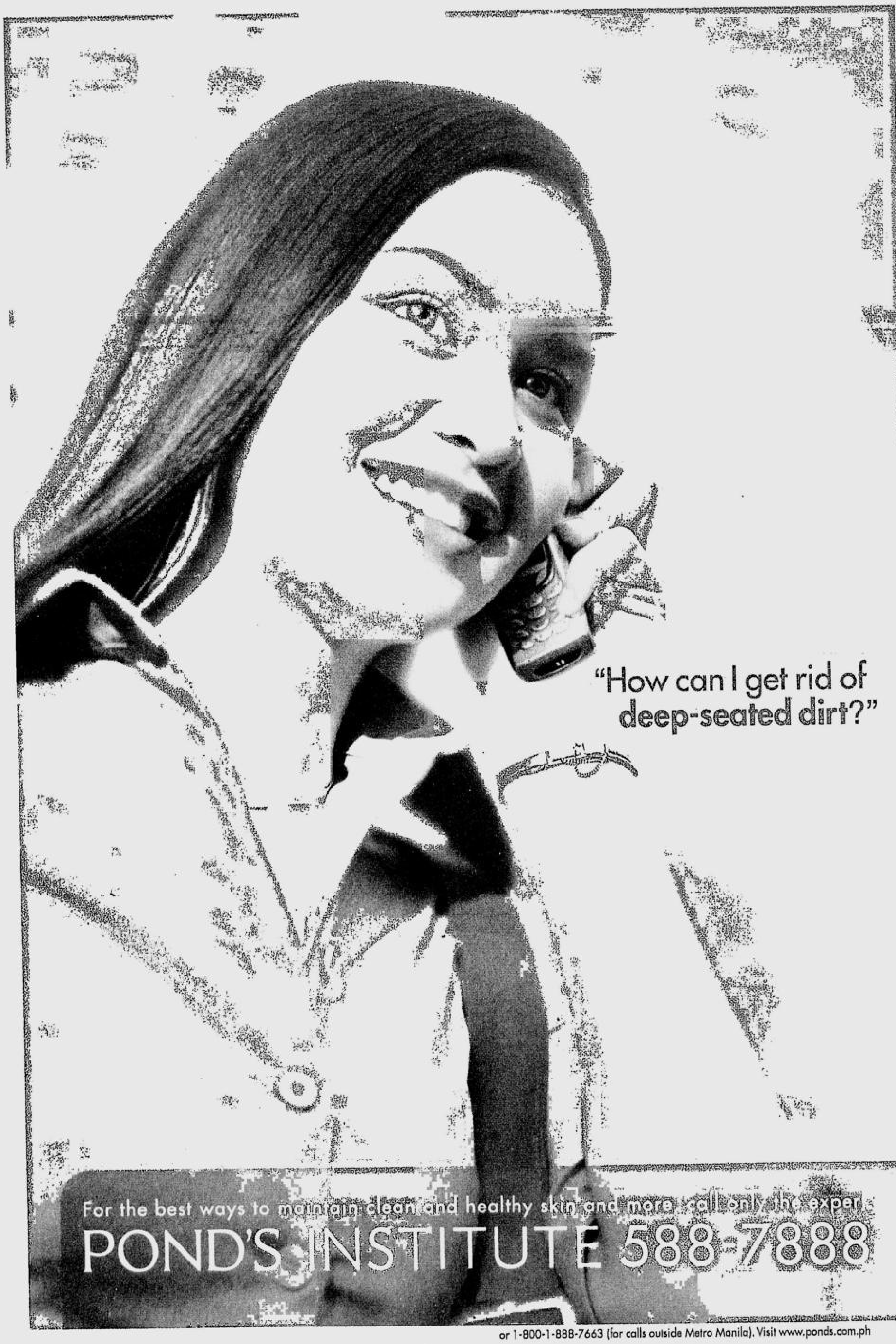
Dans cards for Cribs

MY friend, Amelia Azanza, is involved in Cribs, which means Create Responsive Infants by Sharing. Located at the Industrial Valley Subdivision in Marikina, Cribs is a home for abandoned children who are given a better future by people who care for them.

Araceli Dans has designed special all-purpose note cards to be sold to raise funds for the upkeep of the institution. Those who wish to order can call Liway Flores at 681-5921/8078.

Sarina Pasricha online

When Sarina Pasricha applied to study at Stanford University, the admission office searched the Internet to find who she could be. What they got was what I wrote about her in my column, not her articles which appeared in another newspaper. Sarina took up a course in publishing and passed.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Unhappy wife finds a lover

LIVE AND LET LIVE

Tita Dulce

DEAR Tita Dulce,

I met my husband in college. I found KP to be caring, funny and with a strong sex drive. But he also had a temper, was dependent, and would clam up and be a nervous wreck when faced with a challenge. I accepted him for what he was.

We now have three children and, after all these years, I ask myself why I married him.

Although he is hardworking, KP couldn't seem to hold on to a job. Every time he quits a job, I'd look for another one for him since he wouldn't do it himself. Right now, he's unemployed again. He stays home, drinking and smoking.

Once in a while, he'd ask me to wear tight pants and a blouse with a plunging neckline (which he bought for me), then he'd bring me to places like pool halls, for men to ogle at. When we get home and while we are having sex, he would talk dirty and mention how guys got excited over me.

During one of those outings, a guy asked KP about me, and my husband gave the stranger my phone number. The guy pestered me with phone calls. Another time in a pub, KP invited a guy to our table. The guy obviously enjoyed looking at me, and even made a pass, which I never told KP.

Last year, when his car door got dented as he drove out of the garage because my son forgot to close it, KP blew his top. Knowing his violent temper, I brought the kids to my sister's house. He raged and, as usual, blamed our problems on everybody else except him. He packed his things and went to his mother's house.

Later, he asked to meet outside, with me wearing my sexy getup again. I refused and insisted that he came home. At one point, he asked why I was always frowning at him.

So I told him that I found out he had an affair with another woman. I also told him that I didn't want to wear the sexy clothes anymore. Believing he would change for the better, I took him back.

But he did not change. Worse, he's smoking marijuana again.

Then my relationship with JJ began. I discussed my problems with him because he was having similar problems with his wife. We go out several times a week.

JJ makes me feel special and offers advice on my problems. He suggested that I should talk to KP. I asked KP why I had to wear those sleazy clothes, and why he smoked marijuana. I also confronted him about the dirty text messages he was exchanging with another woman.

As expected, he clammed up. He simply said, "Okay, so I won't do it again." The next day, he acted as if he expected everything to be back to normal. All I really wanted was to hear him say sorry, instead he kept saying he loved me and wanted me to tell him the same thing. The truth is I can no longer say that I love him as much or as passionately as before.

Am I wrong to try to be happy? How long should I put up with my husband? Can JJ and I continue with our relationship? Why is it that doing what is forbidden is more enjoyable than doing the right thing?

AA

I think that's because it's often much easier to be weak than to be strong in the face of temptation, and because relieving tension is much faster than finding a long-term solution. That's what your affair with JJ does: relieve the tension. That, too, is what marijuana smoking does for your husband, and what an illicit affair does for JJ. You're getting relieved of your tensions, but your problems are not getting solved.

I think addiction, not love or habit, would be a more appropriate description of your extramarital affair and KP's smoking marijuana. All of you should face your problems.

I'm neither a psychologist nor a psychiatrist, but I'd hazard a guess that KP has serious problems with himself. His inability to hold a job, his temper and strange sexual behavior appear long-standing. I don't think more heart-to-heart talk between the two of you, or an advice from this column, would solve those problems. He needs to see a professional counselor or even a psychiatrist or psychotherapist.

You also need professional help, even if KP refuses to get one, because you must learn to cope with the tensions of your marriage and also because you are likely to be part of your husband's problems.

As I understand from the experts, a behavior like KP's persists or gets worse because the wife unintentionally nurtures it. That may be hard to accept, but please don't reject it until after your therapist has explained it to you.

E-mail titadulce@netscape.net or send letters to P.O. Box 2353, Makati CPO 1263 Makati City

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My days as a 'tindera'

(Second of three parts)

By Gilda Cordero Fernando

ONE of the things I had dreamed for the shop was to feature artist-made, one-of-a kind crafts. And so Solidaridad Galleries, folk art division, held the first artist-created crafts and papier mache show in May 1970. The Joses allowed me the use of the whole gallery. It was the talk-of-the-town and pictures came out in several newspapers.

An American Peace Corps volunteer, Jenny Mc Cabe, produced a pink-and-green dragon candleholder. Bayanihan's Isabel Santos made sarimanoks. Executive Nena Nakpil made several elegant Virgins. Jo Escudero made not-quite animals or people. Wanda, a UP Fine Arts student, presented a whimsical winged tortoise, a porcupine turtle with sideburns and a polka dotted fairy dog. Diana Santamaria, Edith Oliveros, the Carlos sisters and other artists contributed more useful creations like bowls, trays, vases, tissue holders and wastebaskets.

A hippie named Small and his group, Little People, made checkered tables, toy chests, medicine cabinets and colorful covers with mirrors to hang in a teener's bathroom.

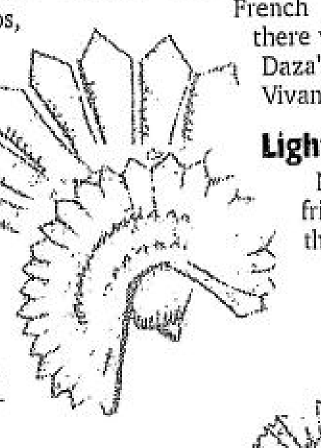
Trailblazer

Cora de Jesus, an FEU teacher, and science High School instructor Maggie Simpliciano created huge, sturdy animals, including a 6-foot giraffe for a nursery. Cora migrated to the United States and became a professional window dresser. When she came to Manila 10 years later, she gave me $20 as balato for "discovering" her.

Eventually, every other gift shop carried its own papier mache. It became good business for others but none of the creations was original and lots of it was real compone. True to form I never repeated that magnificent sold-out show. One thing sure, I knew how to blaze trails—I just never got to the pot at the end of the rainbow.

High drama

Life in the tourist belt was libertarian and full of high drama though the Malate part, where Solidaridad was located, still had a touch of old world class. Painter Bencab trundled a flower-crowned English girl named Caroline on Remedios St. in a pushcart. Hippie poet David Cortes Medalla, in *barong* and *bakya*, had just finished a series of shocking poetry readings in his dark Mabini pad called Le Cave des Angelis. (All the writers and pseudo somethings attended). A band of midgets had been rounded up to serve the drinks in Jim Turner's bar. If you fancied French food there was Nora Daza's Au Bon Vivant.



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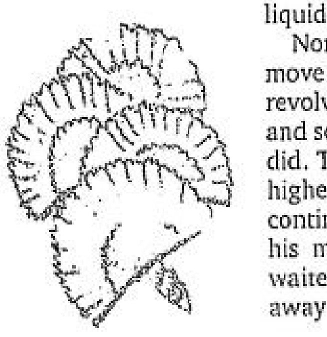
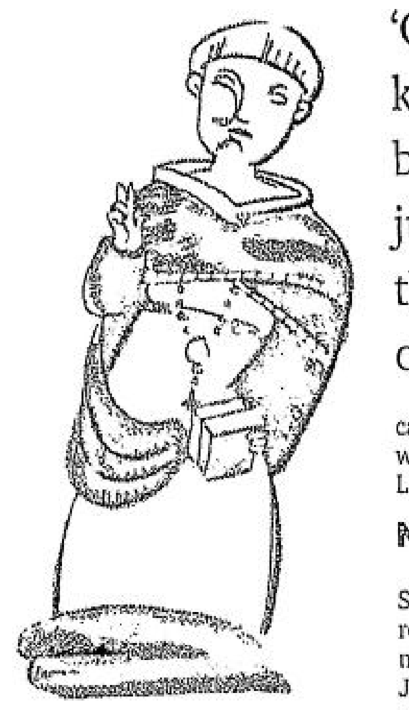




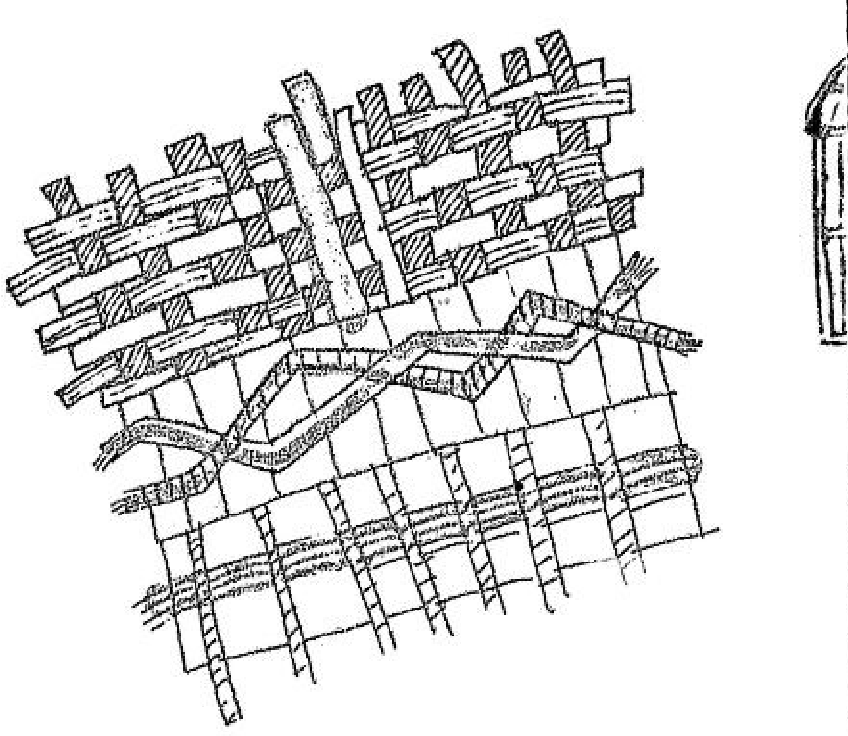
Light a fire

My dealer friend Lala then had a lover named Taboy, who owned a bar near Ferguson Square. One day she learned that Taboy was two-timing her. To get back at him she went out on a date with another guy. Taboy found out, went to Lala's apartment and smashed all the jarlets and *sarimanoks* that Lala peddled for a living.

With a revolver tucked in her cleavage, Lala marched to Cinco Litros. It was 2 p.m. and only painters Onib Olmedo and Jaime de Guzman were there. Lala laid the gun on top of the piano and ordered Jaime to start playing and she wouldn't let him stop. Lala then reached for Taboy's most expensive bottles of cognac and poured their contents all along the bar top. Then she lit the liquid

None of the waiters could move because angry Lala had a revolver. The bar top was formica and so didn't burn, but the liquor did. The flames grew higher and higher. Frightened, Jaime just continued playing and playing his mad symphony. One of the waiters must have finally slipped away to make a phone call because pretty soon fire trucks were wailing all around and Cinco Litros was saved.

> 'One thing sure, I knew how to blaze trails—I just never got to the pot at the end of the rainbow'

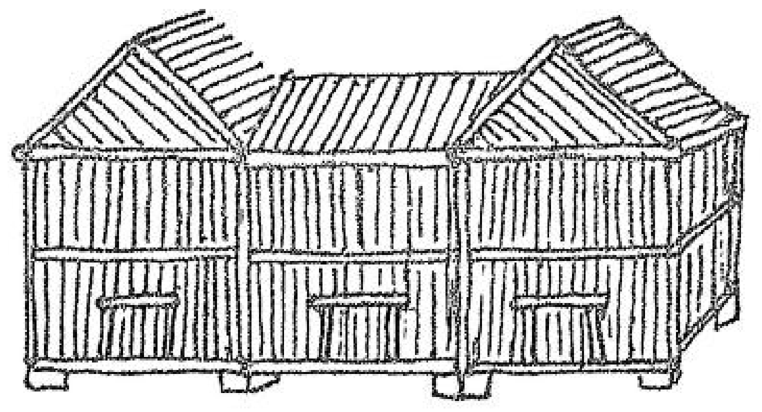


Normal jobs

In 1976, the building housing Solidaridad Galleries was due for renovation. A new tenant was moving in. Frankie and Tessie Jose had transferred their gallery to Padre Faura where it eventually became part of their famous bookshop. It was time for me to fold my wings. For the next decade, to the relief of my husband, I worked at normal jobs where he could keep track of me. With the Ateneo business management school (which evolved into the Asian Institute of Management) and with a Philippine encyclopoedia project funded by the Australian Hamlyn Group, with the aforementioned Mr. Alfredo Roces as editor. Everything I know about editing and publishing I learned from the latter project. But I missed the gallery, the artists, the sweet-smelling people and the hippies of Malate who visited—Onib, Bencab, Toni Parsons, Pandot Ocampo, Ning Jurado, Sylvia Mayuga, Betsy Francia, Lui de Vera, Cora Alvina, Dave Baradas, Anding and Maco Roces and the gallery secretary, Agnes Nuval, as well.

Whimsical junk

When the project ended I felt it was time to go back to Bohemian Ermita. My sister Tess (who is a better business person) and I decided to open another antique-and-folk art shop. Junque was located on M.H. del Pilar cor. Arquiza, one of a row of shops in a pre-mall concept called Mabini Art Center. We named it Junque because we were going to sell both antiques and junk. It was late 1975.



Junque opened with a whimsical window display of an armless wooden lady, an Ilocano harp, colored bottles, a suspended ghost-like Maria Clara top and a brass *tuba* as big as a flared elephant's ear. My neighbor in front was a girlie joint with cage dancers and its madam and I greeted each other cheerfully each morning with "How's business?" I'd say "good" and she'd say "good," too (she sold girls). I enjoyed the colorful neighborhood with its mix of tourists, art and sleaze, which was quite a contrast to the high life of cocktail parties that I simultaneously led as a corporate executive's wife.

Everyone in the Center was out to make a living and good at it. There was Sylvia Cortes who carried the best *santos* and everything, who was envied for having Central Bank Governor Jaime Laya and First Lady Imelda as customers. The Lorenzana sisters, Dina and Melinda, had the most beautiful household wooden objects from the North that gave us an inferiority complex. Inday Cadapan sold wonderful off-beat items at unbelievable prices. Columbina and another Tess sold

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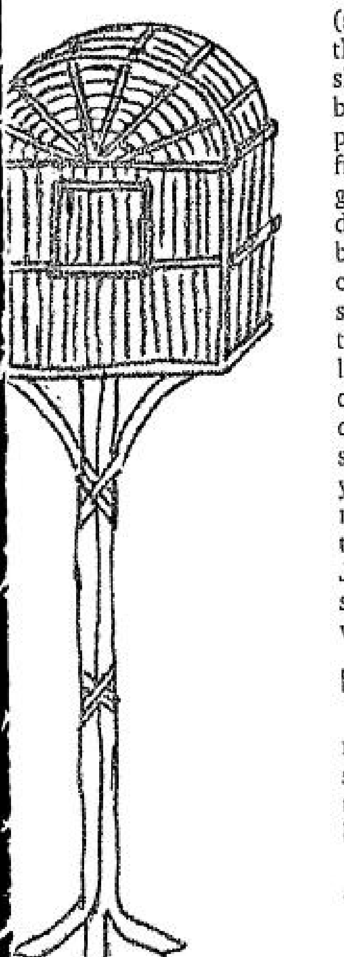
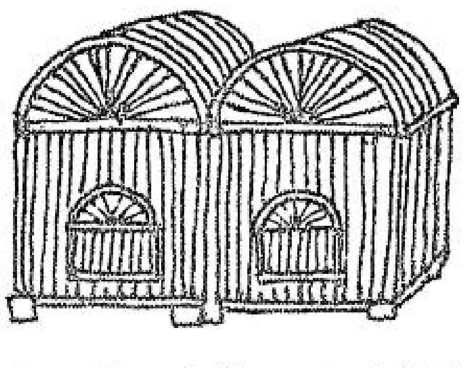


and jewelry, Aziz, the cata-
ıadji at the corner, special-
ı antique jars. There were,
ll, a canteen, a Japanese
rant and a beauty parlor pa-
d by the low-flying pigeons
bini. The shopowners were
ople who worked hard and
hard, competed for mer-
ise, loved and fought on the
but also cared deeply for
ıother.

ble

sister Tess kicked out my horses, bread mah-jong, and kites. Henceforward, clared, Junque would only what was sellable. So this round we had Ifugao bas- etablos and folk altars, ick trees, bone-inlaid flatirons (with the coals). grandfather clocks, bam- rocking chairs, desks, lls, old jewelry, Elgin es, ceramic dolls, betelnut T'boli beads made of melt- thbrush handles, horsehair gs, Tagbanwa bird carvings (supposed to be left in the forest if one had shot a bird) and even a barber's chair. Also a pile of antique *sayas*. A friend, Irene Santiago, gave the *sayas* to us to dispose of because they belonged to her deceased grandma and she was scared of them. Our salesgirl believed that its dead owner visited the shop at night to dance, in her garments. Our staunchest *saya* buyer was a young, artistic, forever-broke Ramon Obusan (who later founded the famous dance troupe). When Junque carried *sayas* every other shop soon sold them, too. Same with the colored bottles.

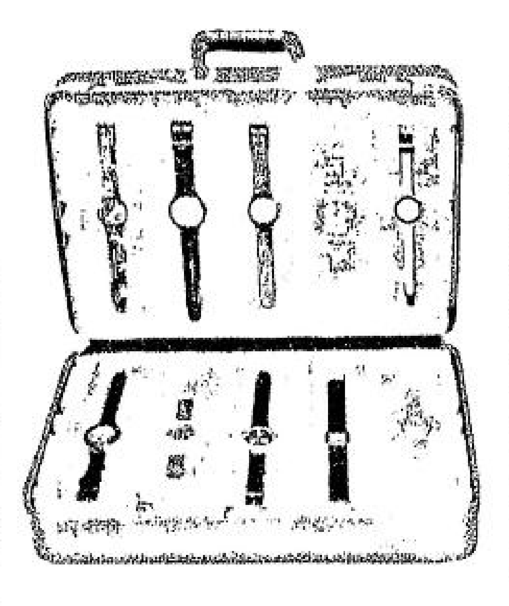


Bird cages

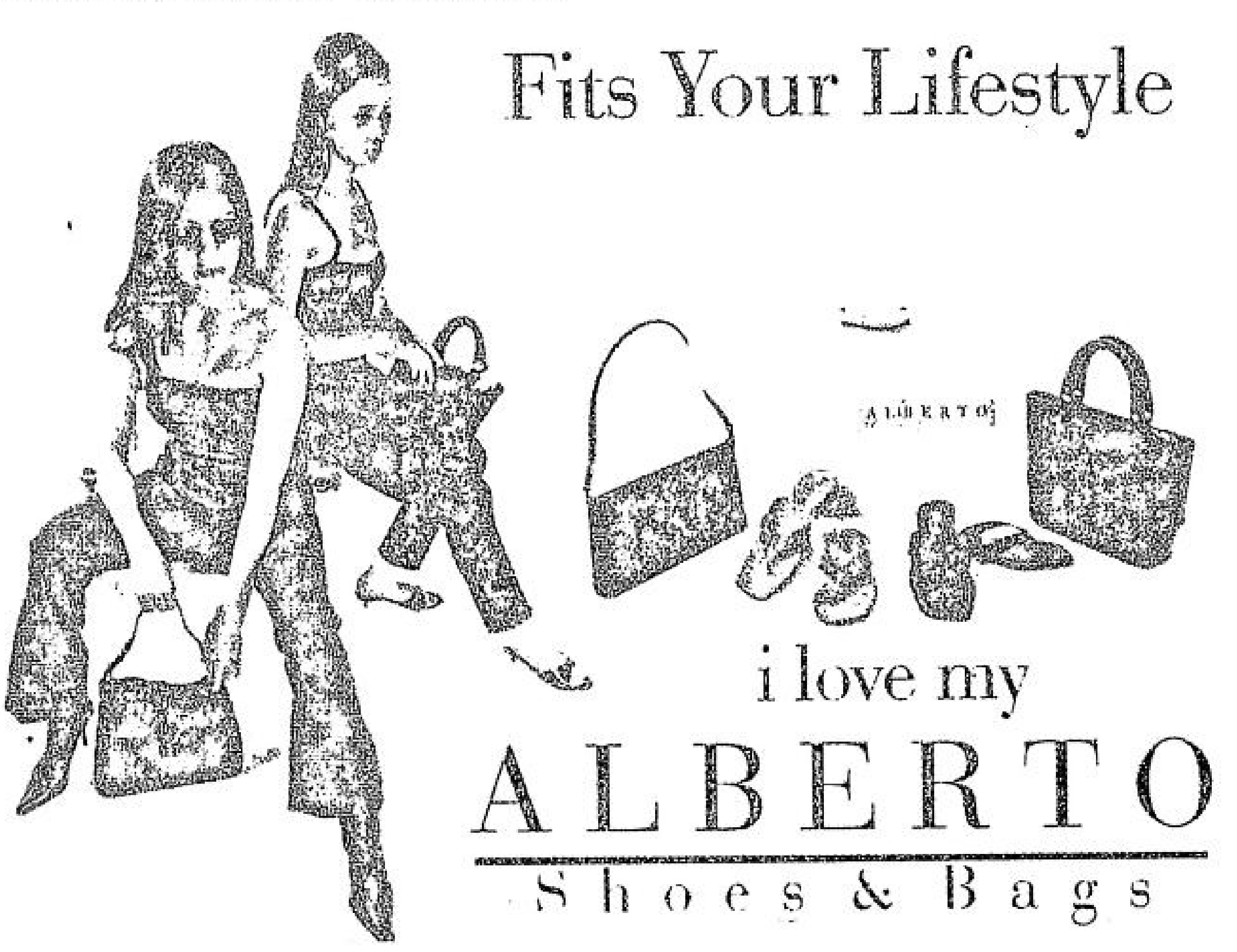
One fine day I watched a movie on Africa which showed several crude birdcages made of twigs being loaded on a banca. A bulb lighted in my head.

Soon thereafter I met Tio Ipe, an old man doing exquisite bamboo work. From my rough sketches evolved his fabulous bird cages—with arched or gothic doors, some of them duplexes or multi-storeyed. (These ante-dated the Japanese versions around). He made a parrot cage shaped like a parrot. A revolving cage for a mynah. He even made a rattan bicycle. We were elated. They sold well. Even to a student named Ben Chan (who grew up to be Bench, the retail giant). Wiry senior citizen Mang Ipe delivered them himself, pedalling a bicycle all the way from Pasay with those birdcages precariously stacked at his back.

MADMAN Martin Nievera just can't get enough of his Swatch! Shown here with the latest from Swatch's Turnover collection—"Die Another Day" from the James Bond line.



GUESS who grabbed hold of the complete set of the Swatch James Bond collection? Longtime Swatcher, Concert King Martin Nievera, was one of the first to own the limited edition James Bond suitcase to keep his entire 20-watch collection from the Swatch James Bond line. The aluminum case with the "007" insignia is available at all Swatch stores nationwide.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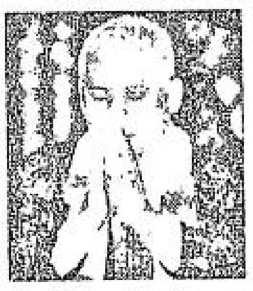
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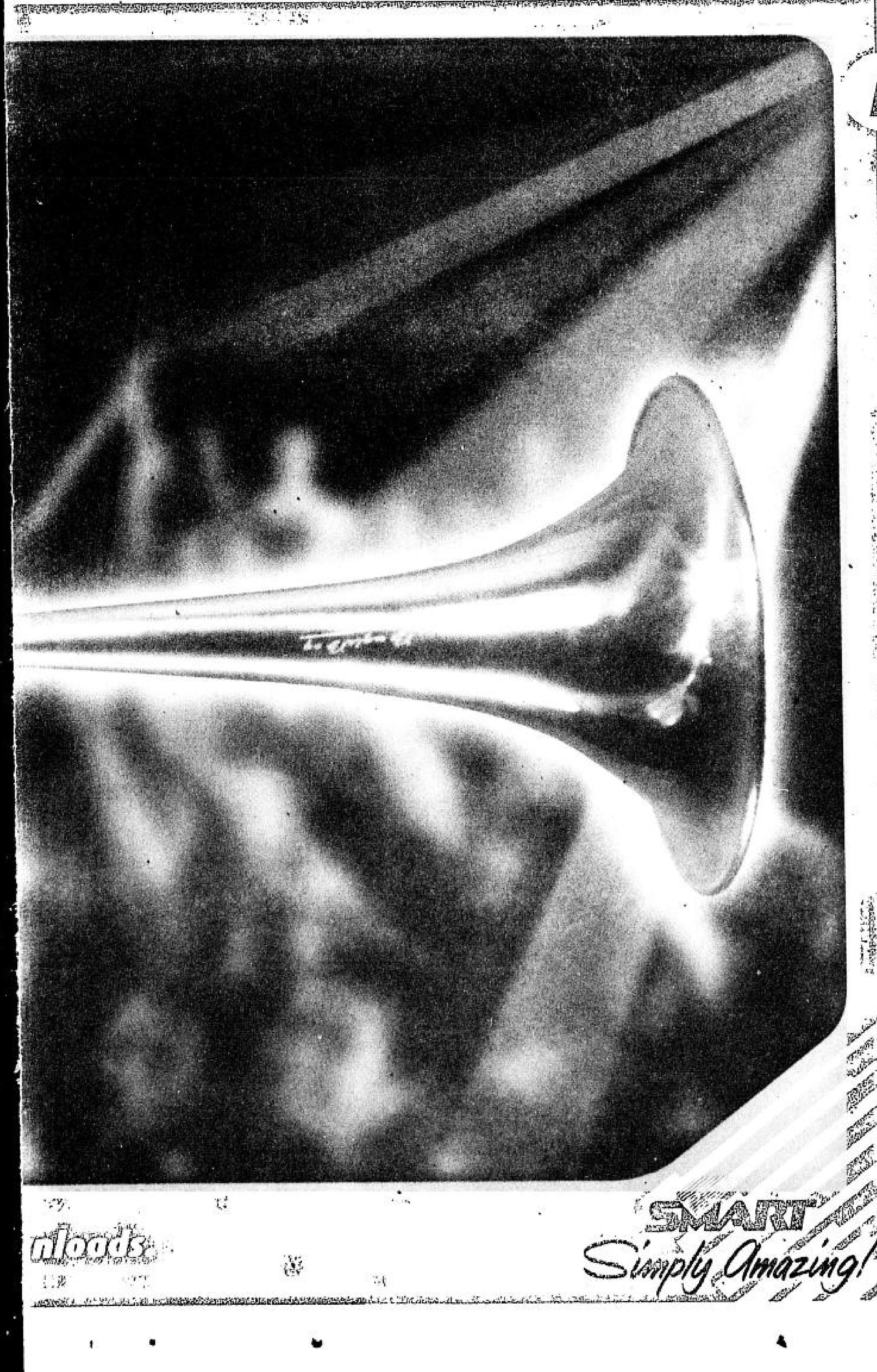

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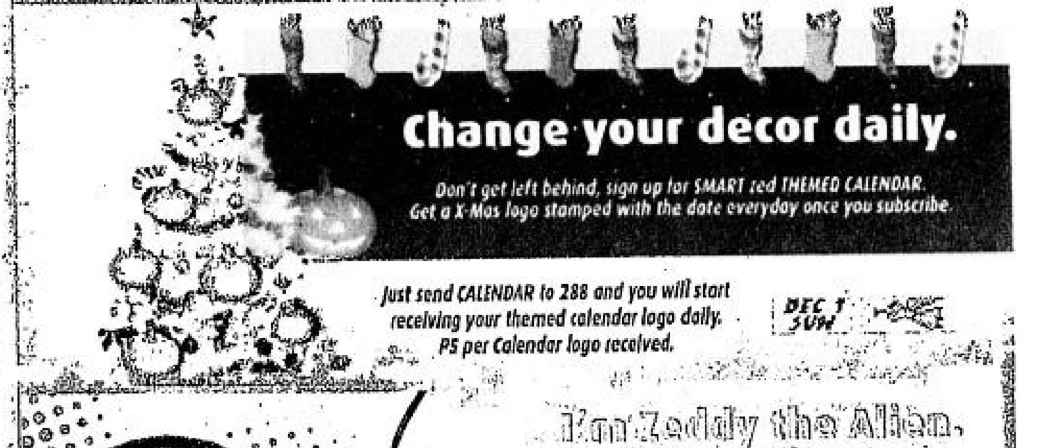
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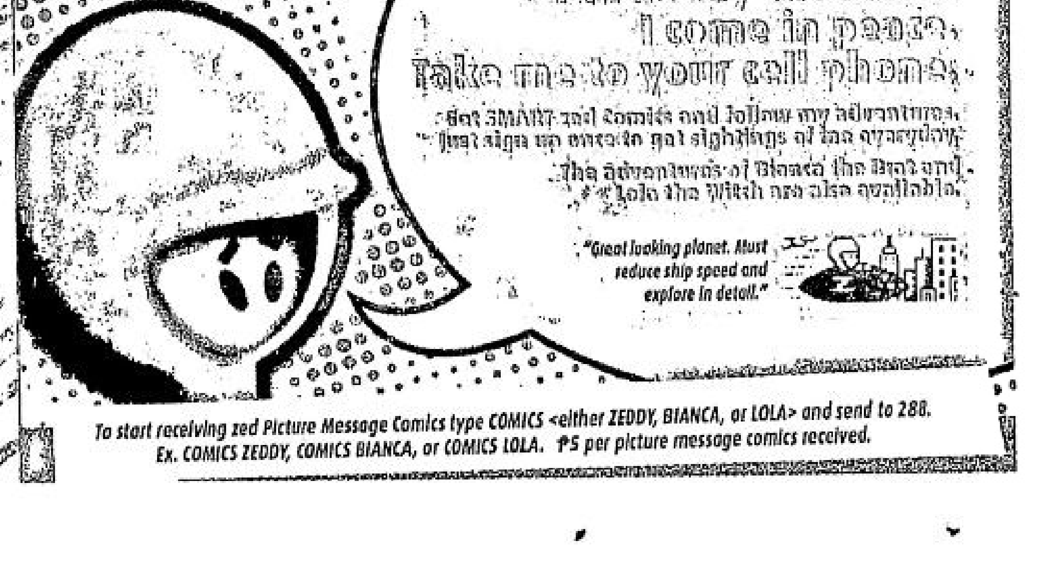
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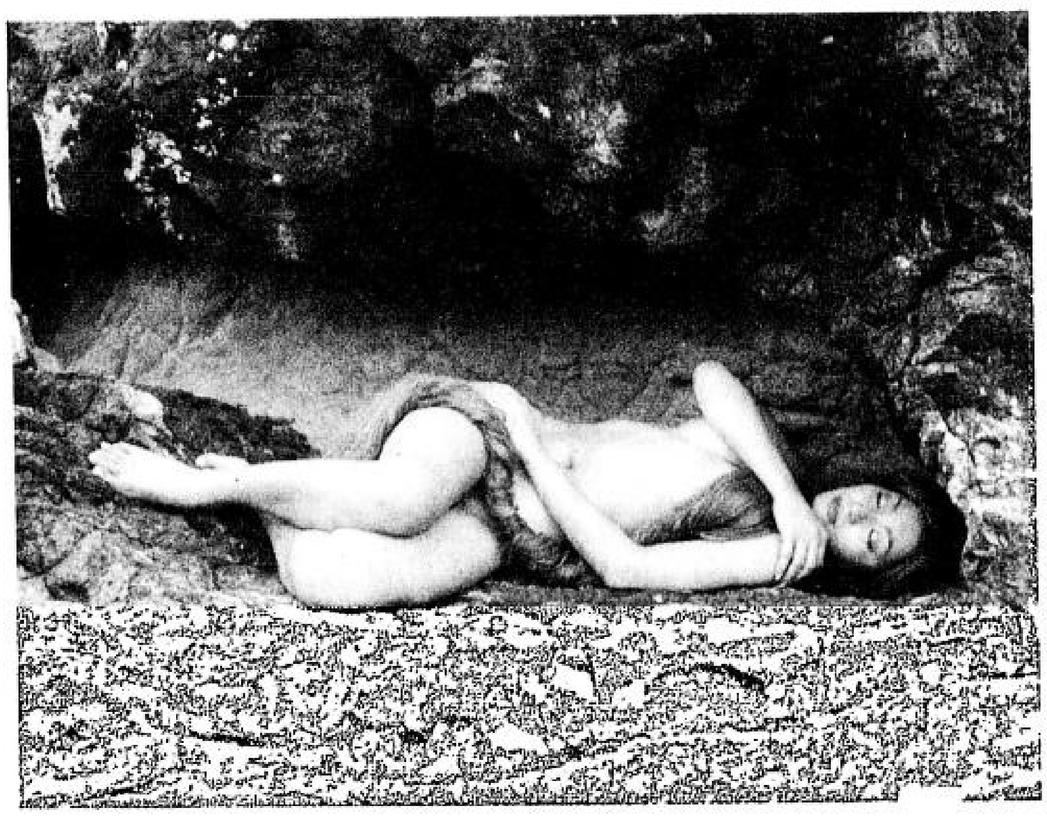
KAREN in a series from the portion Wind, a collaboration among the photographer, the model, stylist Jenni Epperson and makeup artist Krist

Dream work

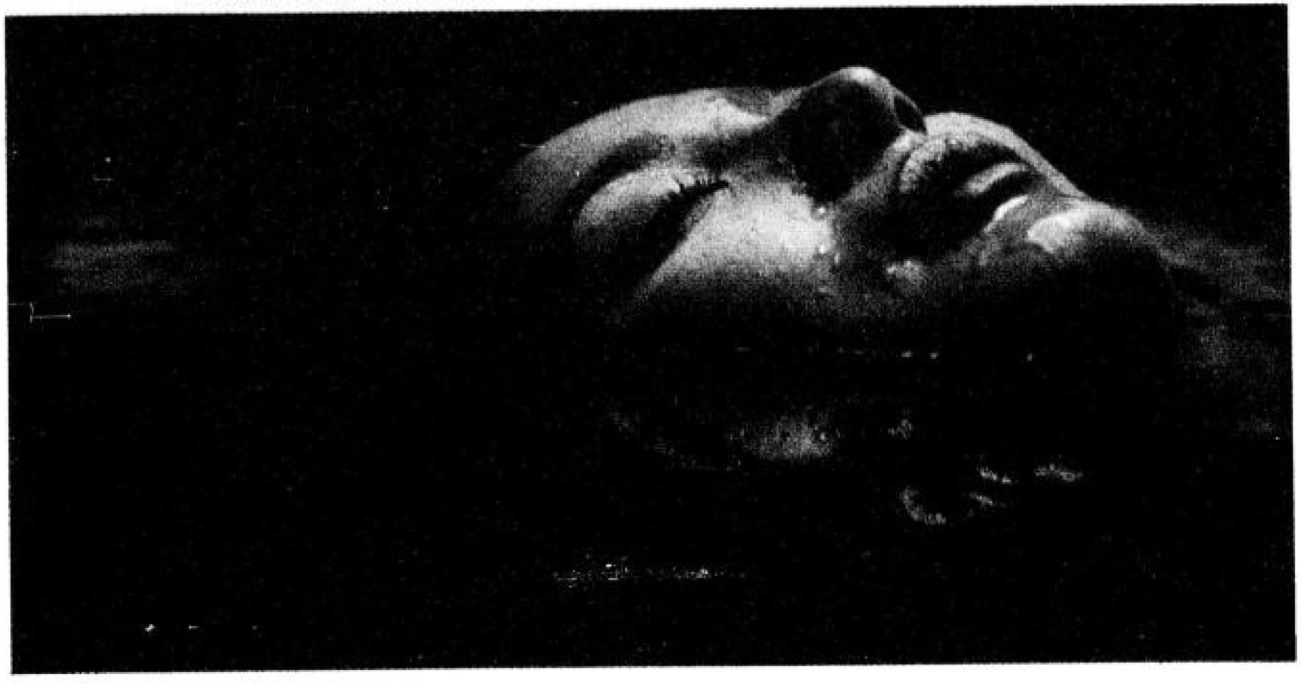
Jun de Leon's coffee-table book 'Suonos' interprets the elements through a unique collaboration between photographer and other creative souls

FIRE, the element that embodies fury and passion, as interpreted by Jun de Leon in tandem with stylist Marlon Rivera and makeup artist Jing Monis, with the models all harnessed up.



EARTHY Karen, styled by Millet Arzaga, made up by Henri Calayag and photographed by Jun de Leon

A WOMAN's beauty, and that of the earth, are the stuff photographer Jun de Leon's dreams are made of.



WATER as an element of life and dreams in photographer Jun de Leon's soon-to-be launched book 'Suonos'

Dream work

Preface by Marita Nuque for the book "Suonos" to be launched Dec. 12 at the NBC Tent at the Fort

JUN de Leon runs on full. His work schedule easily bears this out. You walk into one of his shoots and there, amid the clutter of models, equipment and production staff, you come upon the photographer lighting his nth cigarette, the air charged with an intensity that sets everyone's motor running.

One Saturday afternoon in August, however, something else made the man appear all keyed up and edgy. "I'm doing a new book," he announced, "the coffee-table book I've always wanted to do. My dream project."

When Jun talked about a dream project after launching three successive collaborative books, you knew he did not use the word loosely. As it turned out, his latest baby meant the coming together of dream and reality and the serendipitous events that led to its fulfillment.

First, there was fledgling actress Karen Montelibano. Jun was commissioned to do publicity shots for her launching movie. Working with her closely, Jun was immediately struck by the young woman's raw sensuality, her rare sense of discipline and lack of artifice. And she was yet untainted by celebrityhood, a factor that brought potency to the mix.

"Karen belongs in my dream book," Jun mused at that time, but just as quickly dropped the idea. He knew he needed a patron but refused to look for one. "I did not believe in pushing my dream toward its realization," he said. "I felt that it would come in its own good time."

Little did Jun know it then, but choosing Karen as the model for his book caused things to fall into place. Not too long after, businessman Sandy Javier dropped by his studio. The two gentlemen had met at Javier's ranch in Lipa, Batangas, where Karen's publicity shots were done.

"Then and there I saw that Jun was not just a professional," Sandy now says. "Here was a man who was passionately committed to his art. I saw it in his works. I gleaned that much from the stacks of glossy books on photography lining the walls of his office."

Hooked

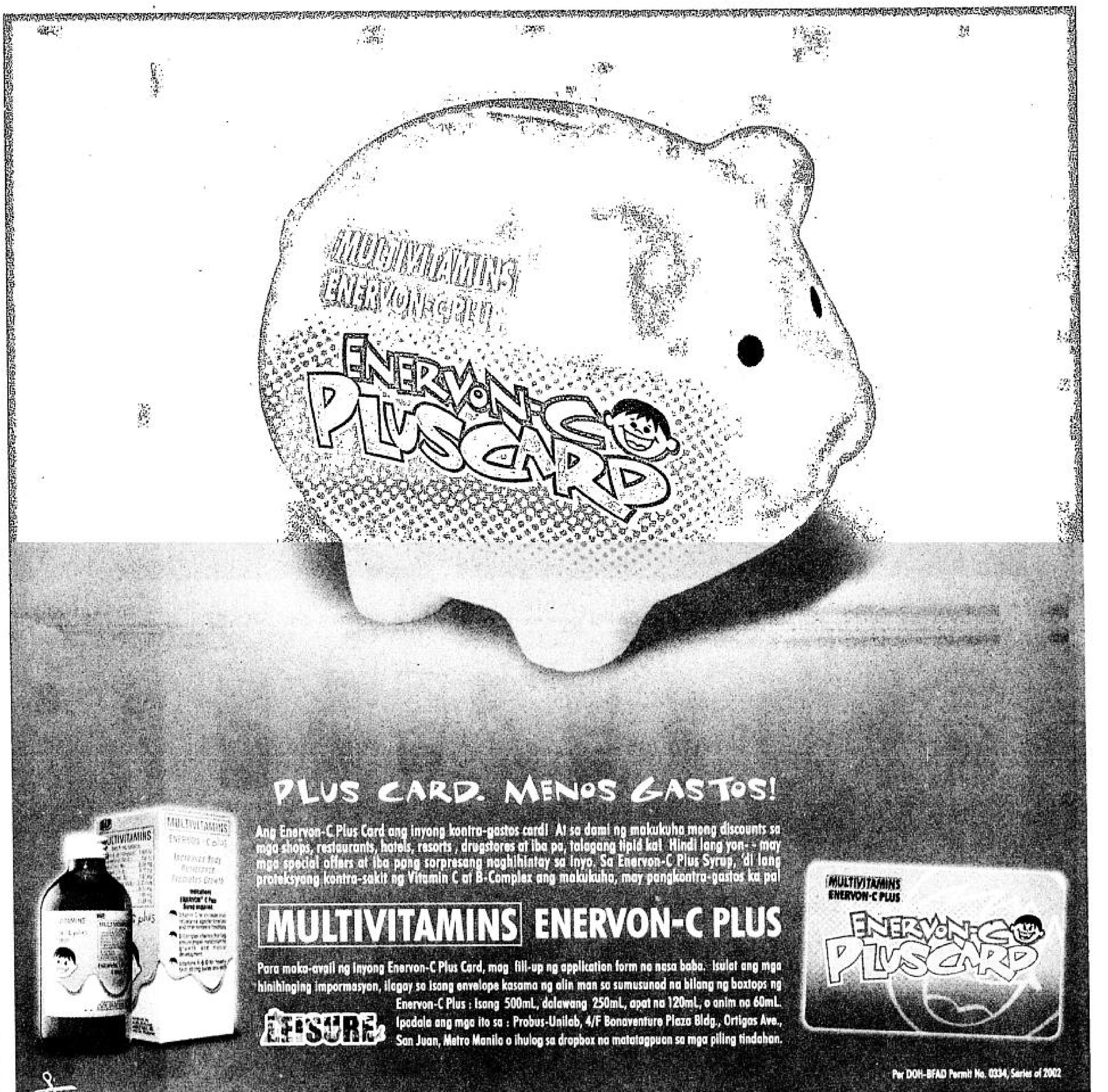
Jun de Leon found himself telling this new acquaintance about his dream book. As he described his concept and explained the logistics involved, his visitor listened intently—and was hooked. "Seeing that Jun truly believed in his dream made me want to be part of it," Sandy recalls.

Jun finally found his patron and there was no turning back. Last July 24, the two dreamers began a venture that would forge a strong professional bond among the key players involved in the job: the photographer, the patron, the model, the art director and four sets of stylists and makeup artists.

Each team of stylist and makeup artist was assigned an element—earth, wind, water or fire—and asked to interpret this, using the multiple aspects of locale, props, costume, hair and makeup. Of course, Karen Montelibano's bare face and body provided the canvas for the teams' art. Jun's camera chronicled their stories.

Tasked to weave the visual offerings into a single entity of a coffee-table book was Fifi Feliciano, art director at large, who had her formal training in the venerable Pratt Institute in New York. Millet Arzaga and Henri Calayag (earth), Jenni Epperson and Krist Bansueh (wind), Michael Salientes and Cristine del Valle (water), Marlon Rivera and Jing Monis (fire)—this book certainly skimmed the top off the industry's brightest. The support staff—line producer Eddie Littlefield and production manager Fernando Sucalit—saw through the myriad details generated by the complex collaboration of talents.

And no one was too "big" or too "small" for the job. From Sandy, himself, who pushed the right buttons to ease "Suonos's" birthing pains, to Jun's energetic technical aides and creative team to Karen's personal assistant cum masseur, each can now claim a stake in the creative process that produced "Suonos." Yes, "Suonos," the Latin term for dream. For as you should know, this pièce de résistance in Jun de Leon's acclaimed body of work, is the product of a dream.



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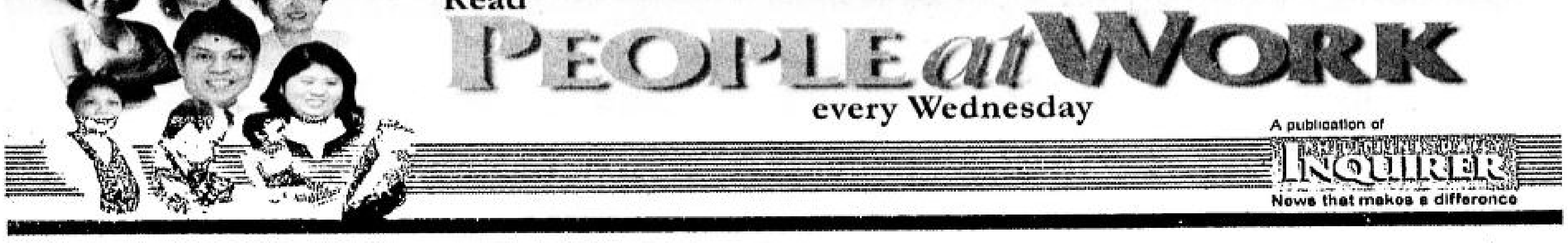

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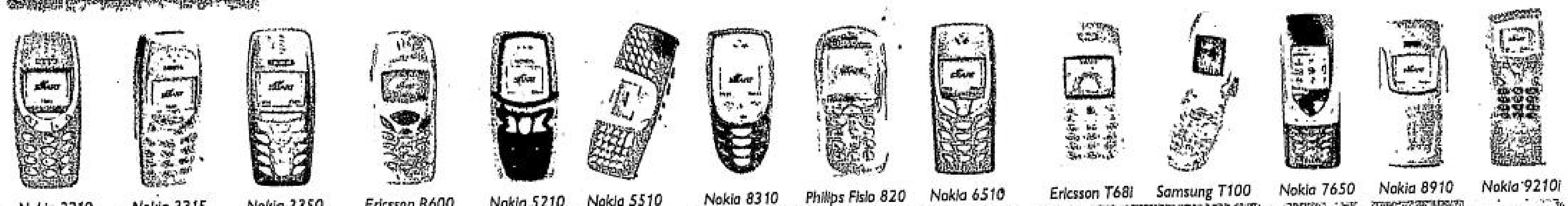

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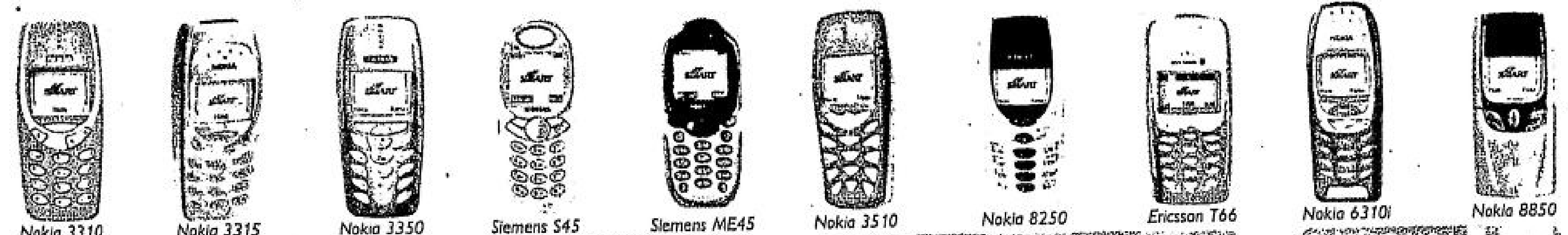

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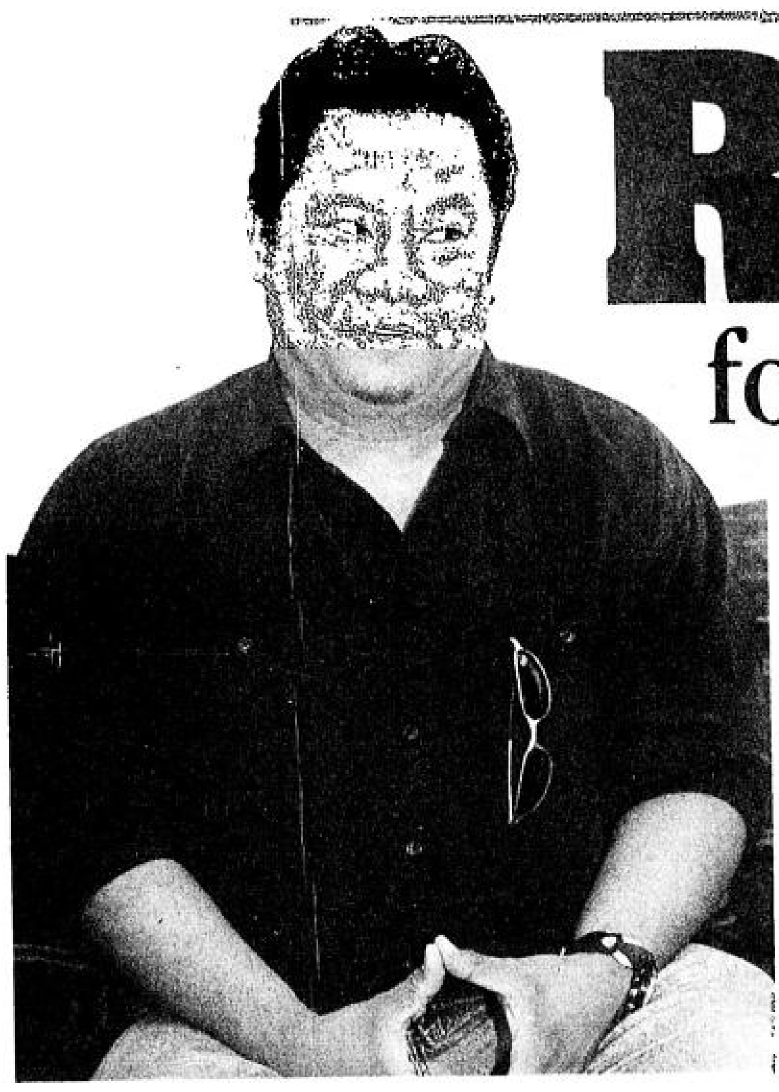

Rex for the wicked

'You wanna hang out with my mom for an afternoon? You wanna see how my comedy works?'

PLAYTIME

By the Staff

WHO'S afraid of Rex Navarrete?

Certainly not the wife of a former Philippine ambassador to the United States who once pelted him onstage with a dinner roll for making a joke about then President Joseph Estrada. Honest and downright funny, Rex Navarrete, stand-up-comedian, has captured the imagination and fascination of every Filipino through his unique brand of humor—poking fun at every Fil-American Juan dela Cruz and his travails in the great US of A. Last month he packed in audiences at Dish at the Power Plant and had a two-night SRO performance. Metro magazine brings back Rex to the Dish on Nov. 30 and Dec. 1 (Call 631-3121 loc. 114).

Navarette draws his punchlines from life itself. Born in the Philippines, he left the country when he was 3 and was raised in Chicago by working-class parents. Out of this experience, he derives snippets of life which he calls "real Rex moments." He says that everything has humor, "You will always find humor. I don't always make stuff up."

Navarrete discovered his talent at 19 when a college professor noted his sense of humor. That was in 1989 and a lot has happened since. Performing all over the United States, he has become a household name in Filipino-American homes on both the East and West Coasts. He released his first CD in 1998, "Badly Browned," which was followed in 1999 by "Husky Boy." Both became hits on the Classified Records label. Last summer 2001, Rex released his third CD under his own Kakarabaw Productions, "Bastos." All three efforts are a first for any Fil-Am comedian. After each performance in Manila, his CDs are snapped up and fans queue patiently for the comic's autograph.

Navaratte believes that the key to his success is plain and simple honesty. "I think Filipinos are adept as an audience to know that you're fake. Though there's music and all those lights they can still see right through the phony," he says. And the best piece of advice he ever got? "Don't be phony. Just be sincere and write about what you know. Don't write about what you don't know because it's going to be obvious... so just kick the phoniness to a manageable level," he stresses. Then in true Rex Navarette fashion, he quips, "Of course, I never really truly grabbed my mom's Sto. Niño and made it fly around the house like superman."

How's the Pinoy audience compared to the American?

I guess I'm discovering different types of audiences here; the audiences that come to my shows are usually more like the AB crowd ...So I guess I have a [better] audience than maybe Andrew E. (Laughs) `Cause you know, I was like, "Hey man, there's only one kind of comedy." No, there [are] many kinds of comedy here, so I'm discovering them.

Did you have to refine your brand of humor to cater to the taste of the Filipinos here versus the taste of Filipinos [in the US]?

Of course, [in] any performance, I always have to look at my material and see which ones fit, and how I can tailor them to the crowd. For the most part, my audience has always been Filipino and knows what Filipino culture is about. Or, at least, they have families who are immigrants; they come from immigrant households. So it's not that far off from lots of other communities in the States who migrated there. We share the same experience.

Do we laugh at certain jokes less and at certain jokes more? Have we risen above our tendency to laugh at slapstick humor?

I'd like to say... but then again there are different kinds of audiences. Maybe there is an audience that admires and loves slapstick humor, like making fun of midgets. That comedy will always be around; I'm not gonna try to change that. I'm gonna just keep doing what I

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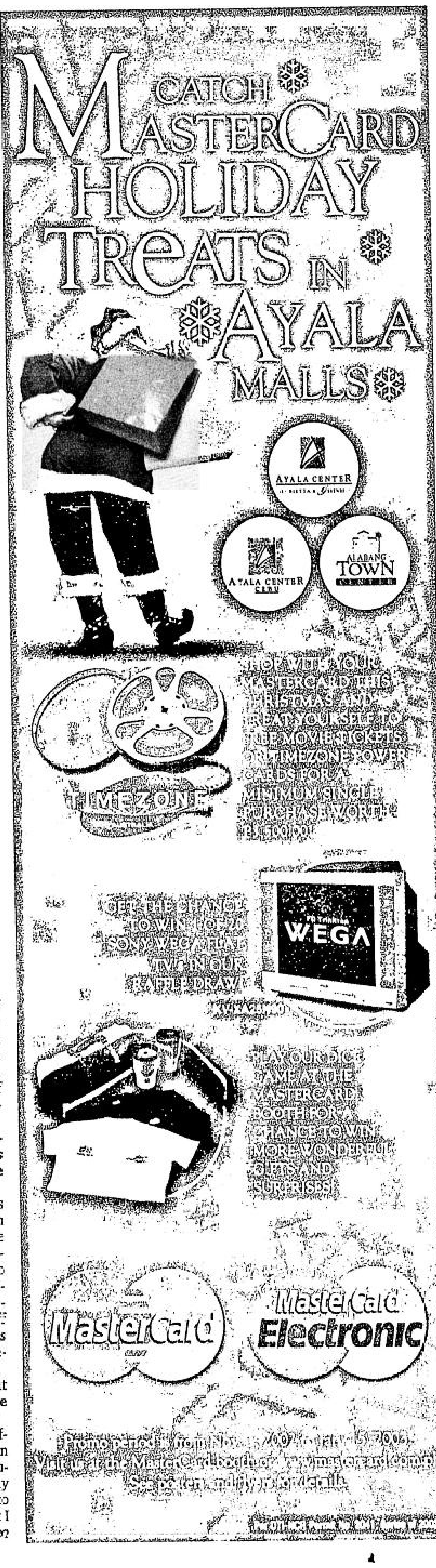

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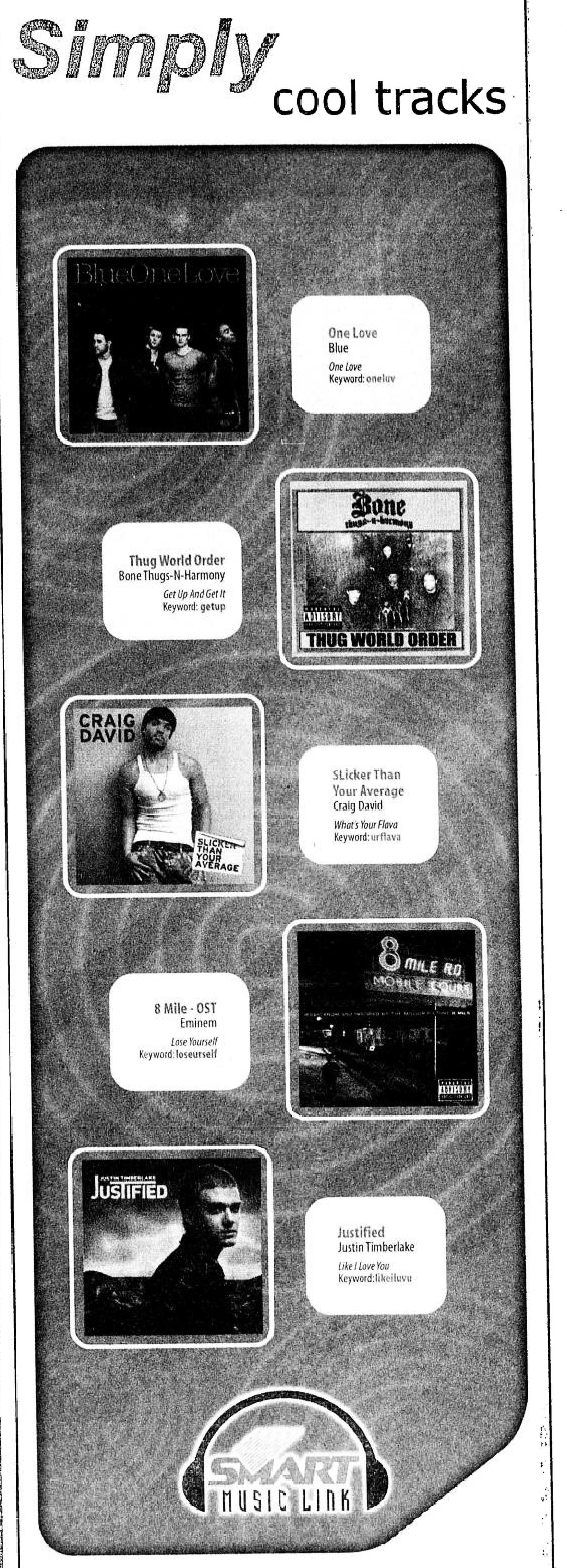

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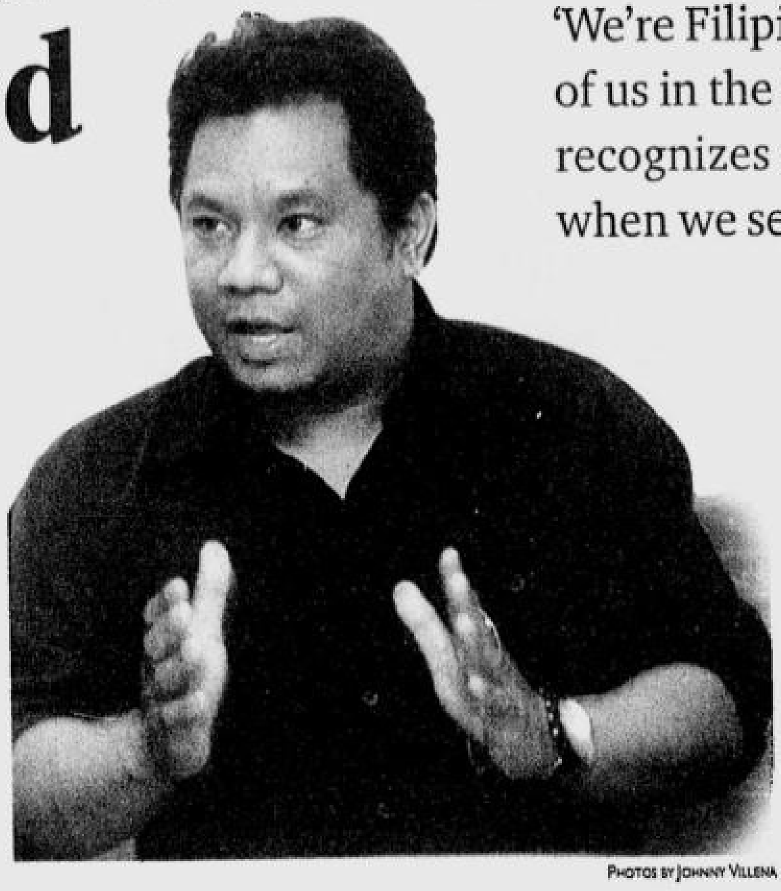


PHOTOS BY JOHNNY VILLENA

> 'We're Filipinos. There are millions of us in the States, but no one recognizes our existence, except when we send out an e-mail virus.'

From page D1

do, which is more cerebral.

What do you think of the Lenny Bruce style?

Excellent! Lenny Bruce, I think, was an American standup comic who really pushed the envelope when it came to freedom of speech and taking artistic integrity to another level, especially in comedy.

Do you apply that style?

I try to. Maybe 10 years from now, I might be at a different level. Right now, I still allow myself to say what I need to say. I've gotten into trouble for that, but that's okay.

Just how irreverent have you gotten so far?

I remember in 1998 doing a show for Filipino-Americans from Washington DC and from around the country. I just started [doing] Joseph Estrada jokes because, like, who wasn't doing that in 1998? I said, "Doesn't Joseph Estrada remind you of every Filipino uncle you've ever had, who always wanted to touch your nuts?" (Laughter) We got a laugh, [but] there's a [couple seated at the] table in front of me who was really, really angry! I just did more (but) I think the first one triggered their hatred of me. And then I started doing more of the other stuff.

They probably felt alluded to. (Laughter)

[I guess] that's why they were angry. Actually, it was the ambassador of the Philippines to the US, Raul Rabe, and his wife. They were sitting there, and then his wife picked up a dinner roll and threw it toward the stage—in front of 800 people who paid like, maybe, 50 bucks! (Laughs) I thought dignitaries should not act that way. Throwing food on stage? If you don't agree with me, talk to me afterwards. (Chuckles)

But you kept on?

I kept on until, you know, the whole place broke up in a riot, because one half of the audience, who was on their side, was yelling at me to get off the stage and even turned off my microphone and the sound. The other half was arguing with these people. It's horrible. Some people say comedy is just words, but no. (Laughs) I think that [incident] proved that comedy could really say something.

I think the other joke that [added fuel to the fire] was, you know, when I said that (Estrada's) nickname, Erap, [was] not just "pare" backward, but the letters could also be switched to spell "rape." (Laughter) I think that's when she threw the bread. (Laughs) And that was 1998...

That's why it took you four years to come here. (Laughter)

Yeah, really. (Laughs)... They didn't want me around. I'd like to think that's the case. I think it was just timing that got me here.

How long before you plan to go into more mainstream material?

What is mainstream material? Early standup comedy had ethnic roots, and then a standard came from Hollywood or the powers-that-be said, "Well, you know, we're gonna make this as wide as possible." Those issues are still facing a lot of us Filipino-American artists, [so] a lot of us strive to be true to our roots. But then, when it comes to Hollywood and your booking managers and all that, you just got to lose your accent. You got to sound what is normal. And if you get that offer to play a ninja, take it. Some of the Filipinos I know trained then demoted themselves to playing ninjas or really just dumb Hawaiian roles. We're Filipinos, there are millions of us in the States, [but] in the business no one recognizes our existence, except when we send out, like, an e-mail virus...

Did you feel neurotic about the culture?

Living in a house with my mom, yeah. (Laughter) You wanna hang out with my mom for an afternoon? You wanna see how my comedy works?

Your mom is from what part of the Philippines?

Lipa, Batangas. My dad is from Dasmariñas, Cavite.

So they're both Tagalog.

Yeah, but one is louder than the other. (Laughter)

The Batanguena, does she carry a balisong?

Oh, yeah! I was first taught how to use a balisong by the woman from Lipa (Laughter).

What does your mom think about your stories? Has she seen [your shows]?

I don't want my mom to think it's all about her. She's gonna brag. (Laughter, mimics) "That's me, that's me, that's really me!" No, it's not! (Laughs)

Can you describe you mom? Is she a big woman?

No, she's actually a hobbit. (Laughter) She's in search of the ring at this very moment somewhere in middle earth. But actually, she's in Rome right now she's...

...Praying for you?

For every time I say the "F" word. (Laughter) No, she's having a good time.

How long does it take you to develop your material?

It can be from anywhere and in an instance...

For example "Tito Boy"?

Tito Boy, that's so curious. I think it is more like a real character study of my uncles, my mom's brothers. A lot of these [people] are my uncles, but then the cream on top is my mechanic. He's really distinctive... accent, you know, [like]: "I gotta look at your radiator, man! It's f___ked up! You just get a new car! (Laughter) Where did that come from?" I just never bought a new one so I could keep going back to him and learn his voice.

And you get your inspiration from your childhood, like the Sto. Niño thing?

That's a new one, that's not in the albums. That's something I developed in the last three months, and I've been having fun doing that because, you know, this is such a Catholic-dominated country. I'm a Catholic and to do something like that, I think I would get excommunicated! (Laughs) I think the papers are being processed right now. (Laughter)

Have they refused you communion?

I don't know, man! I will see when I get to the [pearly] gates. I'll see what happens and I might have to wait in detention for a while.

Have audiences reacted to that?

Surprisingly, I haven't had any major Catholic backlash. Because it's coming from innocence, I think, you know, the kid who has no toys and no action figure to play with in the house. A lot of those come from my experiences as a young immigrant child living in Chicago. We had no choice... You're dealing with racism... in a country like the United States, you know, that's a phenomenon that immigrants have to face. So that's where it all comes from, struggling initially, talking and, finally, laughing about it. I think we're okay now. I mean, my sister and I have grown up well, doing our own thing. My parents are almost semi-retired, but they're still pretty active.

You dwell more on racial issues?

I try to, because that's what being American is about right now.

How about sexism?

Of course. Maybe more issues are gonna come up in my material someday about sexism, you know, between how women are raised, how boys are raised. I'm just trying to go one subject at a time.

Do you have co-writers for your material?

I write my own material.

Do you also interview members of other Fil-Am families?

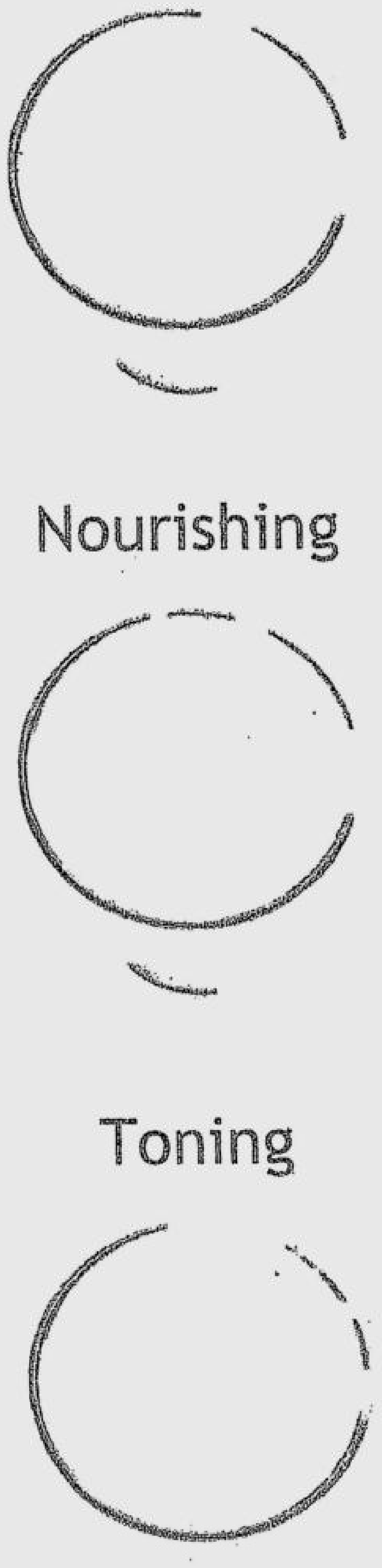
I don't interview. I absorb. I spy. People always wondered why I became a comic when I was such a quiet kid. I was always listening to people. I was watching how the world sounded and how

REX/ D4

Slimming

Nourishing

Toning



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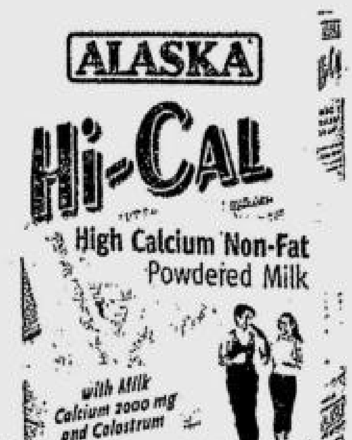
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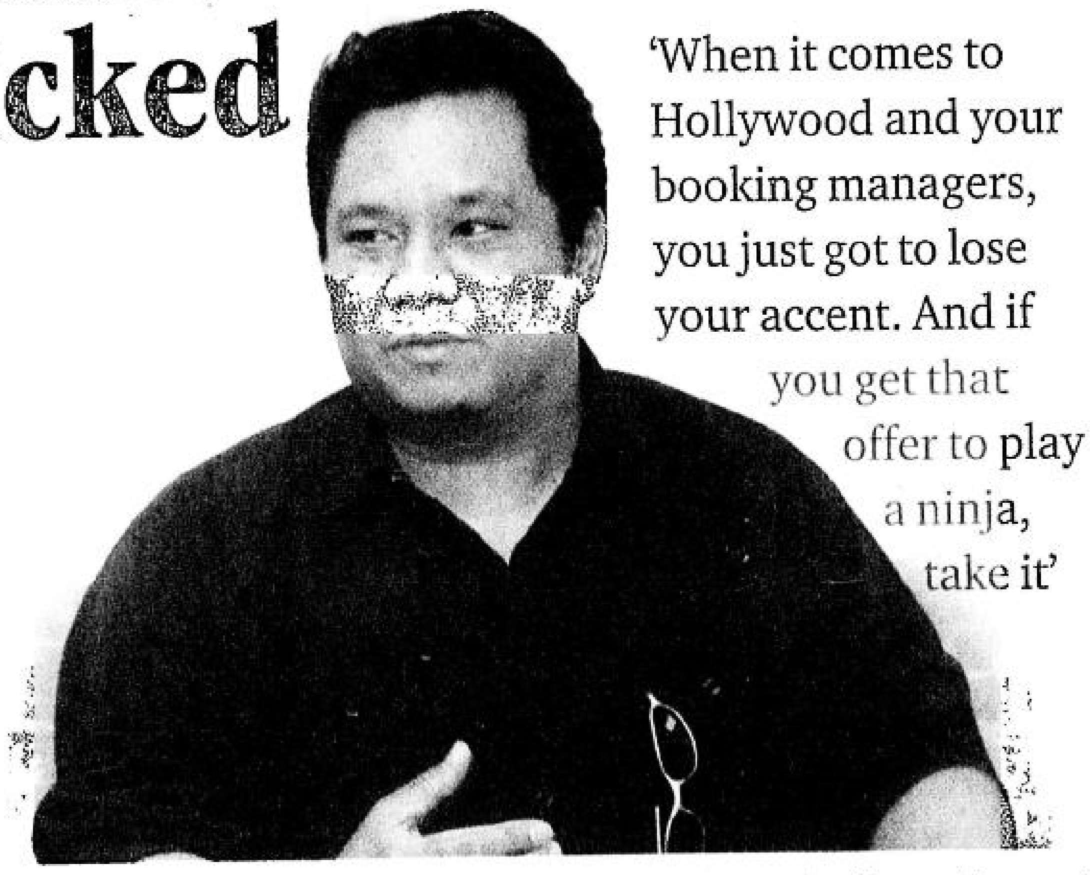

'When it comes to Hollywood and your booking managers, you just got to lose your accent. And if you get that offer to play a ninja, take it'

From page D2

people treated each other. That's where you get your material—you just watch people.

Do you always present new material in each show?

I try to [stick to] a solid menu. But sometimes something new pops up. Maybe that's the great thing about live standup. My stuff isn't made for television. How do I make this audience, the people behind the camera and the transmitter, and the country laugh? How am I gonna do it with this audience here in the [studio]? We're on different wavelengths as well. So if you wanna see my worst performance, watch "Morning Girls." My friends had a good time laughin' at me—for the wrong reasons.

It's probably on the Internet now.

I hope so. (Laughter) There were five comics, and I was the only straight one. I was the only heterosexual comic on the show. (Laughs) Like, oh, wow, I'm outnumbered! I'm the only Morning Boy! Everyone is truly a Morning Girl. Oh my God, I'm so hurt. (Laughter)

Do you think Filipinos are *pikon*?

Maybe just the ones who don't get out much. Maybe the ones who really take life and themselves too seriously. I don't know why. Those are the people I don't want in my shows. Like, why are you here when you don't have a good sense of humor? [Maybe] I'm gonna talk about something that you won't agree with. Even in the States I get angry [about] why people don't like my humor because I'm making fun of [people] (laughs). There's an unspoken rule that if you're a Filipino immigrant, you shouldn't make waves and question the country that you live in. Even though our passports say 'US citizen,' we're [not] entitled to the same rights, opinions [and] freedom of thought. Even with your own community, it's like, "Don't say anything because we might get deported." How do we get deported? We're citizens. So there's still a lot of that fear factor for perpetual foreigners or guests.

My sister was born in Chicago; she doesn't know anything but being American. Me, I was born here so I can see the other side 'cause I'd actually witnessed my aunties and uncles migrate, and saw them go through really hard times, really blatant discrimination, and watched them [in] transition. I can still feel that.

Will you be doing movies?

I'd be very picky about it—if I were to do movies, I'd like to write 'em, I'd like to be behind the camera. But it depends. I'm a big fan of Cesar Montano so maybe I can be coach, or I can be sidekick. (Laughter) I'd like to write a movie for just us two.

Why do you like Cesar?

I think he's cool. I think he's an actor who's so under-appreciated, but he has range. He actually studies his characters. He's gonna be a big star, anyway, because he filmed that Bataan Death March movie with Benjamin Bratt and James Franco. It's a big Hollywood action film... I think Hollywood made a good decision in casting Cesar Montano because he's good.

Have you met each other?

No, not yet, man. So I hope he knows that I'm a good fan. I just like to work with people like that. There's so much talent that's so unappreciated and it just blows my mind [that] they are not getting [more] work.

What's a normal day like for you?

I wake up late so I'm not a morning guy. Comics have a different clock from [other people]. We work nights. We sleep at around 3 a.m. ...messing around with other comics, or doing research, whatever. We're night owls. Breakfast for us is at 2 p.m. (Laughs)

Have there been instances when the audience didn't respond to or laugh at your jokes? What did you do about it?

I just tell myself: "I'm good, you suck. (Laughter) I've been in this business for 13 years. I'm good, you are a horrible audience. (Laughs) You have no sense of humor whatsoever. I think it'd be a good (idea) if you go to Bible study. This is a comedy show."

How many times has that happened to you?

Many times. (Laughter) But you have to believe you're good. I've not given up [just] because I had one bad night. It's the crowd. It's really: "Why are they here?" (Laughs) If it's a bad audience really, I think, "You don't have a funny bone. If you don't have a sense of humor, why are you in a comedy show? You know, you need to go on Prozac, medication. It's okay there's no shame in medication, counseling, therapy—something like that. I know my material is good." (Laughs)

When did you discover or realize that you're funny?

I think I realized it when people sort of kept laughing because there's no better feedback than that. You cannot just read to them [and say]: "There's a punch line."...No. You'll have to test [your material]. There is no proven testing ground than actually getting in front of strangers, a bunch of strangers. They're all looking at you and listening to you. You have to work hard. You have to weed out the [four-letter words], you have to edit—quickly. And you have to make notes and remember your notes.

Four-letter words? (Laughter)

Yeah. My mom doesn't want me to say the "f" word onstage.

But it's not our language. (laughs)

That's what I keep telling her, "Mom, it's not our language, it's okay. It's their language. They imposed it on us... to learn their language perfectly but we can't say certain words? C'mon! But then I tell her, "Well, they pay me twice as much if I do." And she says, "Okay, then say it." (Laughter)

It's all words. It's how you take it. It's really how you take it. Even without any cussing, you know. To say something like Joseph Estrada... I didn't say the F-word at all (Laughter) but I still got bread thrown at me by the ambassador and his wife, you know. So it's just how you say it, it's not what you say...

I guess I'm on the right road because comics like Lenny Bruce and George Carlin and Richard Pryor... comics with something to say because (things) affected them that much, these guys have perpetually walked on dental floss. It's a balancing act. That's what American comedy has become now. It can still be goofy, clownish comedy, but then we have political comics. It's subversive comedy.

People actually wanna say something about 9/11. That was probably the worst three months for comedy. No one was allowed to have fun, no one was allowed to laugh, no one was allowed to even make a joke about the government. Geez, it was so hard. It was so hard just to try to bring people back right after 9/11. And then now, everyone's very reactive and anyone who says anything un-American will automatically be detained for questioning. Your show will be shut down; no one will come to your shows if you [say anything] bad about President Bush. Oh my God, it's like Martial Law, right? Comedy can be very iffy sometimes. It depends on the signs of the times.

Do you often focus on struggling underdogs in you performances?

I think the [idea] is there [although] I can't [mention anyone else]) other than Maritess. The thing has always been there. My characters have to have some kind of spirit. They're not just for telling jokes. Like the SBC Packers guy, we're laughing at him in two ways. I'm really [looking] at one style of comedy, which is more like double entendre. Filipinos like to say, "I'm gonna pak, I'm gonna pak that and pak a hamster." When we hear that, "Oh my God! That's the pronunciation of f--k! But when I'm doing it in front of white people, they ask, "Why is that funny? Why are those Filipinos laughing?" They're lost. If you take it for what it really is, to me it's still my cleanest [skit].

What do you think of President Macapagal-Arroyo?

I think if I ever meet her, I'm gonna call her Tita the whole day. I'm gonna help her with the groceries, maybe clean her kitchen, do the garden, mow her lawn, because she's like a Tita. She's not like a President. I mean, I'm not getting disrespectful. I'm just hanging out with Tita Gloria all day-and that's my mom's name too,Gloria (laughter).

Her two kids, Luli and Dato, came to one of my shows and we got to talk after the show. So I was like interviewing them. Like: So what's wrong? Luli was actually trying to shake off her bodyguards. Just like, "Get away from me!" I don't see the Arroyo family as something like the First Family. They're almost like long-lost cousins turning dysfunctional. (Laughter)

Can you tell us about your hobbies?

I like music. I like playing drums. I like going to the movies. I like shooting-firearms. I'm a pretty good shot. I'm my own bodyguard.

How does humor work with a girl?

I don't know. What are you doing later? (Laughter) I think a good sense of humor really helps. I think when you turn off the lights, when the sun finally sets, or there's a nuclear holocaust in the winter, and then there's no sunlight, not even electricity, the most interesting people in the darkness would be the ones with

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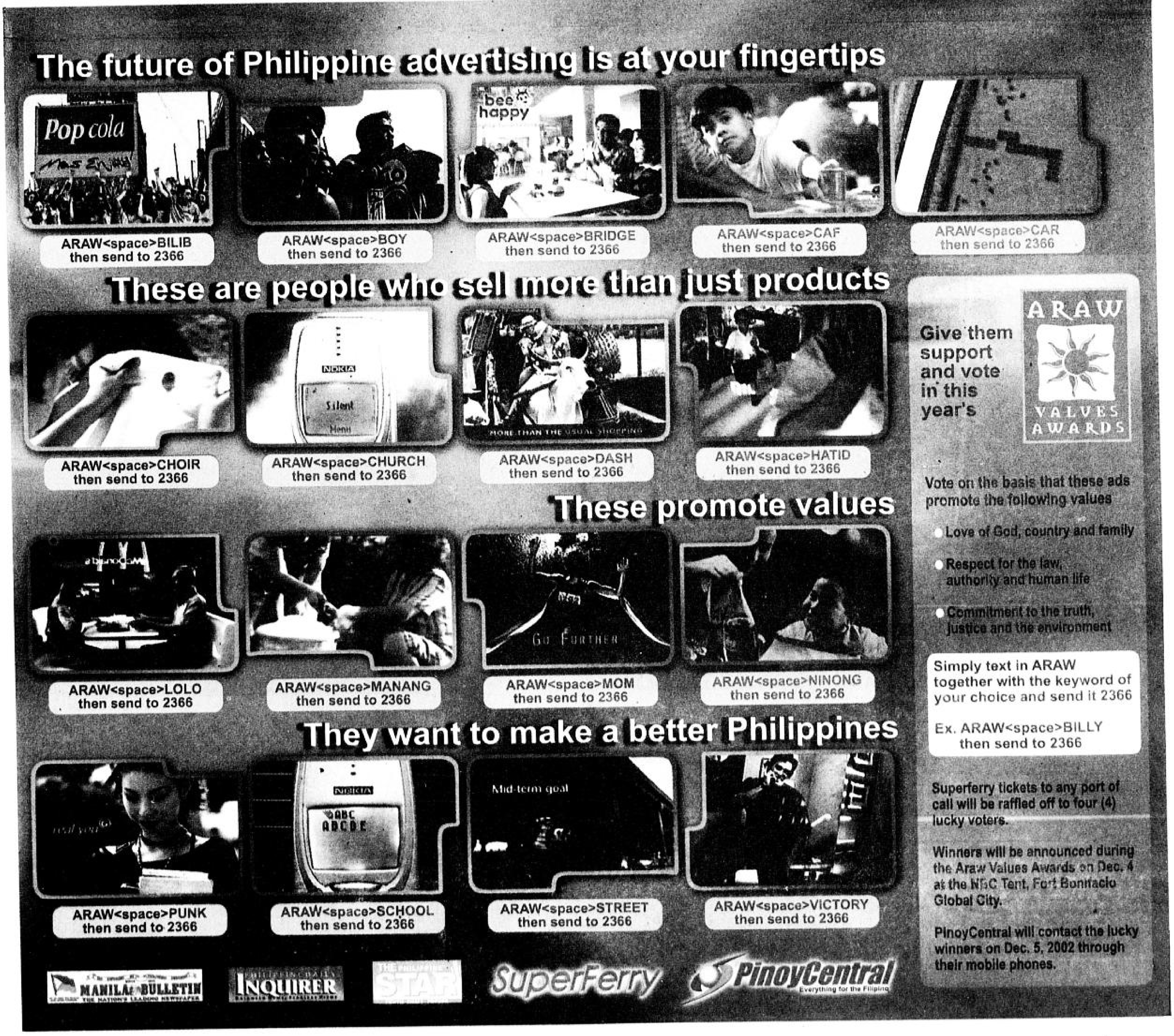

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Rex for the wicked

From page D4

a good sense of humor. All the models and *pogi* boys, they're gonna just die. (Laughter) I have true faith in that.

Where would you be now if you didn't end up on stage?

I would have ended up in the US military. That's one thing I really wanted to do right after high school. I wanted to join my friends and the Marines. If I made that choice, I would be a US Gulf War veteran. I wanted to join the Special Forces or something, and kill many brown people `cause that's what we do best (laughter)... kill brown people while they sleep. (Laughter)

Do you find it difficult to relate to a white audience?

No, they have a problem relating to me. (Laughter) See, it has never been my job to try to relate to them. Just trying to learn their history, learn their language. I went to ESL (English as a Second Language), which was really a horrible program, eliminating the accent of a child. That was full-scale during the '70s. They would take children and put them in special classes just to get rid of their accents.

Has that changed?

It is changing now, but I am a survivor of the first generation of ESL. I've had to deal with that all my life. I had actually a Filipino ESL teacher named Mrs. Scott, 1975-76, a Filipino woman trying her hardest to erase my own accent. Back when I was a kid, "Yah, I wanna go to the special class! I'm gonna sound more like my friends." I think now things have changed. There are more language-immersion programs—white kids, black kids, going to school in Chinatown, learning Cantonese.

White people always had problems with me. I never had a problem with them `cause I'm done with it, you know. I'm done. I know how they are... talk about people with no culture. They've successfully wiped out their own cultures by becoming just Americans-what the hell is that? There are white people with cultures, and they still live in Europe, they still live in Germany and Ireland. For some reason, American white people don't want a culture. They wanted to be as pop in their culture as possible. [The country is] only 200 years old, still a work in progress. The Philippines is an [independent] nation. We have our own culture. I'd rather be more a Filipino than an American.

Do you speak Tagalog?

I need more lessons. I watch as much TV as possible just to learn. But I can do pretty well.

Do you usually eat Filipino food in the US?

All the time. I want that rice—with some kind of sauce. (Laughter) Not just like a little bit but flooded, you know, the flood of soup. There's something... so it's no longer rice. It's coated with something.

Can you do without *patis*?

No! Oh please, don't put me in a world without *patis*! Or *toyo* or *bagoong* or Jufran... (Laughter) What kind of prison would that be? What do you mean no Jufran? Or a land without pork-no! I don't think I can [convert] to Islam, I'm sorry. The *lechon* is just too good! (Laughter)

Do you have a girlfriend?

Ahhh... (Laughter)

Let's revise the question: How many girlfriends do you have?

Oh, that's a different question. (Laughter)

So how's your sex life? (Laughter)

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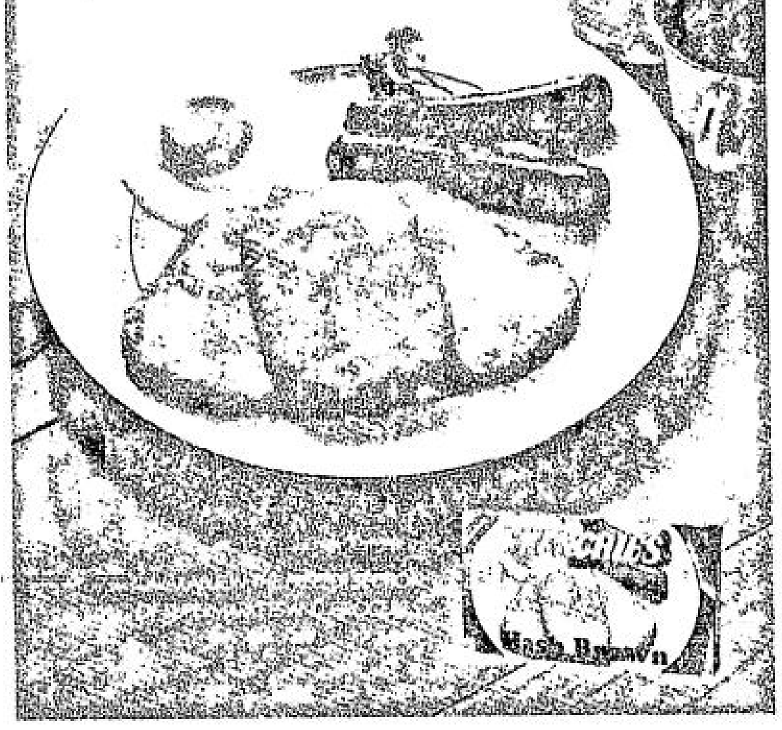

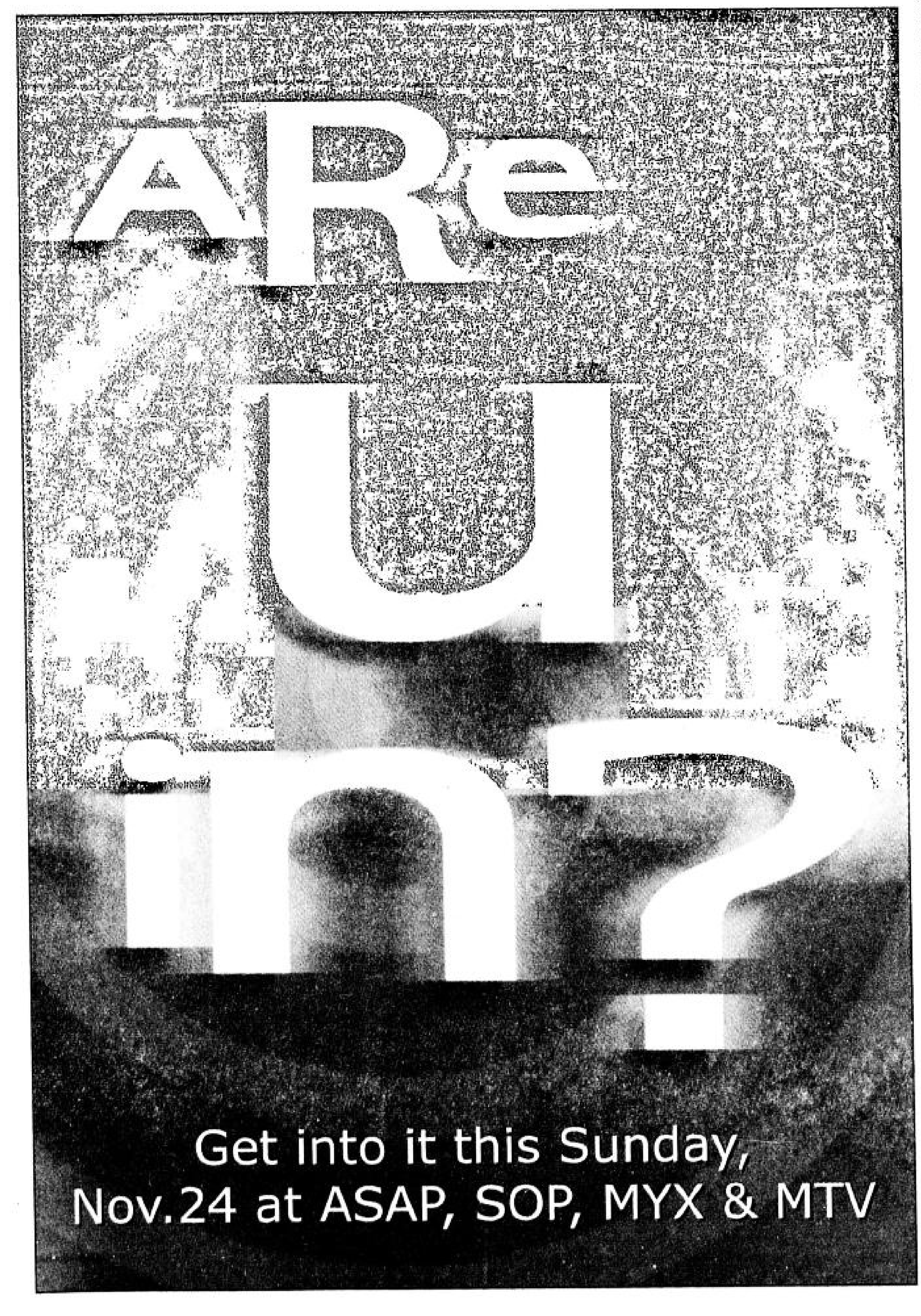

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* The tripling of Frequent User points will be based on January 2003 statement cut-offs.

Per DTI-NCR permit no. 2191 Series of 2002

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Fast-food company joins global fund-raising

Text by Anne A. Jambora
Photos by Egay Montaña

McDonald's used its 30,000 outlets in 121 countries to help the World Children's Day initiative

IN KEEPING with its tradition of constantly strengthening its relations with the community, McDonald's celebrated recently World Children's Day, a first-ever worldwide endeavor that simultaneously raised funds for children.

With every purchase of a McDonald's Happy Meal, McDonald's buttons and participation in the Wishing Tree project, people around the globe were able to help in the worthy cause. McDonald's was able to pull off the ambitious project with its 30,000 outlets in 121 countries that serve some 46 million walk-in customers every day.

In the Philippines, McDonald's went the extra mile by organizing other fund-raisers, such as the McDonald's World Children's Day Fun Run and Ronald Fun Carnival Event, and by giving away 30,000 kits to selected public schools. It also held a charity ball/auction at the Rizal Ballroom of the Makati Shangri-La, hosted by its charity arm, the Ronald McDonald House Charities (RMCH).

Among the items auctioned off were Nokia 7210 and 3315 cell phones donated by Globe Phils., Snoopy World Tour Collection and a Chinese jar donated by McDonald's Phils. managing director, Joseph Lau, autographed Regine Velasquez CDs donated by Viva Records, and a limited millennium edition Lucerne wristwatch.

A Pagcor casino was set up in one corner for participants who liked a game of chance.

The black-tie affair was attended by the country's bigwigs, including business tycoon Lucio Tan and son Michael, society's bubbly and colorful personality Tessa Valdes, show biz's Gretchen Barreto, and McDonald's Phils. and McGeorge Food Industries president George Yang, Lau and wife Sarah, EVP Kenneth Yang and wife Cindy, AVP finance Joel Orense, and Asia-Pacific's relationship partner Tim Tights. Also there were Coca-Cola Phils.' president James Harting and wife Nancy, department division president James Amatavivadhana and wife Jill, and Rowel Villamora, Arlene Buen, Jenna Corvite, Sidney Ang Santo and Ted Miguel.

Simple plan

Manila's youngest councilor and SK Manila Federation president Francesca P. Gernale was there with her grandmother, fifth district-Manila League of Barangays president, Cora Gernale. The 18-year-old De La Salle University student was able to raise P1 million for the World's Children's Day by selling 20,000 tickets worth P50 each.

Her plan was simple: give each *kagawad* seven tickets to sell. She thought that by keeping the sales to a minimum of P350 per person, the *kagawads* would be accomplish their goal. She was right.

Of course, a McDonald's event of this magnitude was graced by no less than its No. 1 endorser and the country's only Megastar, Sharon Cuneta, who sang a couple of songs. Regine Velasquez kept the momentum high before leaving the floor for comedian-actor-singer Ogie Alcasid.

Other personalities who entertained the audience were Boy Abunda and Shaan Bermudez and, in-between sets, the talented Ugoy-Ugoy Band with Lynn Sherman. The angelic voices of the Mandaluyong Children's Chorus rendered the "World Children's Day" song composed by David Foster.

Proceeds of the fund-raising went to the RMHC, whose banner project is the construction of Bahay Bulilit Daycare Centers. The first center opened at Barangay East Rembo, Makati City, with the cooperation of the Department of Social Welfare and Development and local government units.

McDonald's Phils. overall fund-raising efforts for the World Children's Day raised P2 million. Already, RMHC is getting ready for next year's event.

E-mail the author at ajambora@inquirer.com.ph

CITIBANK N.A

A P2-MILLION check is handed over to the Ronald McDonald House Charities.

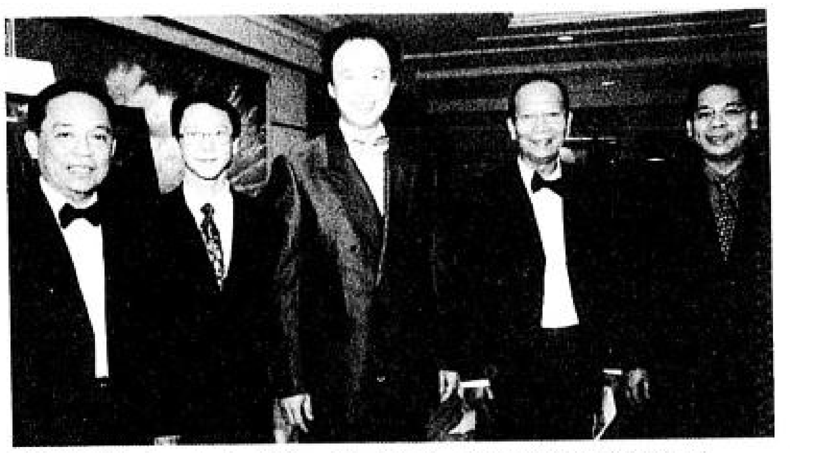
SARAH Lau charms the audience with her Chopin piece.

CRISTINA Yang and Tessa Prieto Valdes

JOEL Orense, Leila Hernandez and Tim Tights

MEGASTAR endorser Sharon Cuneta

MICHAEL Tan



EDISON Avigueterio, Sidney Ang Santo, Joseph Lau, Ted Miguel, Dindo Relloza

MCDONALD'S Phils. and McGeorge Food Industries president George Yang, James Harting and wife Nancy, Jill and James Amatavivadhana

STEVE Sinnasamy, Jun Alcantara, Hector Heraza

LUCIO Tan and George Yang

MCDONALD'S Phils. managing director Joseph Lau and wife Sarah, Gretchen Barreto, McDonald's Phils. EVP Kenneth Yang and wife Cindy

YOUNG Manila councilor and SK Manila Federation president Francesca Gernale raises P1 million for the cause, with grandmother Cora Gernale.

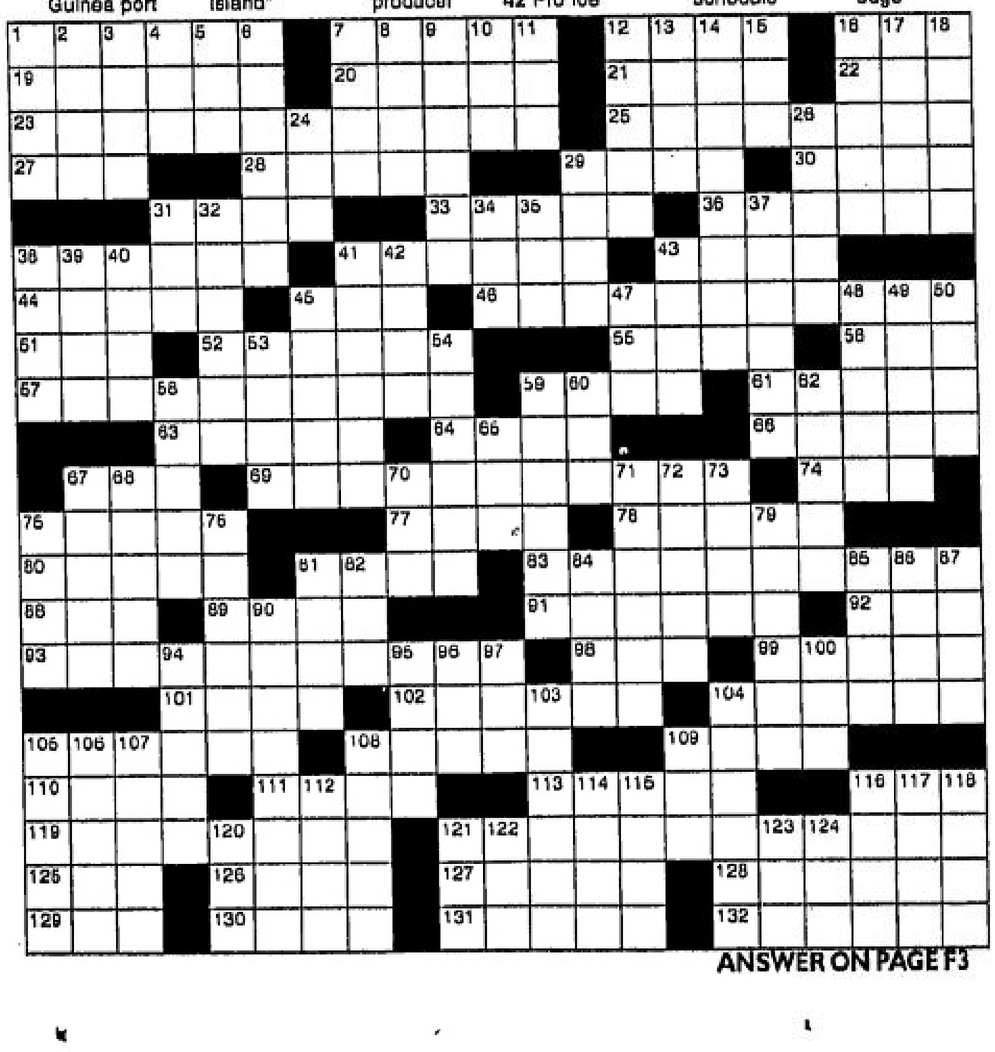
SUNDAY CROSSWORD

PREMIER CROSSWORD/ By Donna J. Stone

CAN'T STANDISH STILL

ACROSS
1 WWII site
7 Serenity
12 Brazos River city
16 Clerical garb
19 Point the finger at
20 Synthetic fiber
21 Christiania, today
22 Remote
23 Riddle: Part 1
25 Gershwin's "— in Blue"
27 Beatty or Buntline
28 Gaggle gal
29 Watch part
30 Fountain order
31 Rocker Marc
33 Nature spirit
36 Sable, for one
38 Lee of "The Fall Guy"
41 Cantaloupe's cousin
43 Team
44 Skater Berezhnaya
45 Bleak critique
46 Riddle: Part 2
51 Papua New Guinea port
52 Contaminates
55 Butz or Warren
56 Sapporo sash
57 Tactful
59 Consider
61 Ford flop
63 Maine town
64 Space
66 Al — (cooking term)
67 Lear, to Goneril
69 Riddle: Part 3
74 Fleur-de- —
75 Desert schlepper
77 — Romeo
78 Heep of Dickens
80 Coeur d'—, ID
81 Cartoonist Silverstein
83 Hard to describe
88 Hurried
89 Little one
91 Prate
92 —4 (Toyota model)
93 Riddle: Part 4
98 Loafer part
99 Gladden
101 Alan of "Gilligan's Island"
102 Frequent Funicello co-star
104 Scanty
105 Roller-coaster feeling
108 1970 World's Fair site
109 Chatterley or Windermere
110 Director Nicolas
111 Skip
113 Turbine part
116 — Gonçalo, Brazil
119 Avoidance
121 Answer to riddle
125 Swell place?
126 Actor Barry
127 Murcia mister
128 Farm adolescent
129 Weaken
130 — -Neisse Line
131 Early German
132 Spanish —

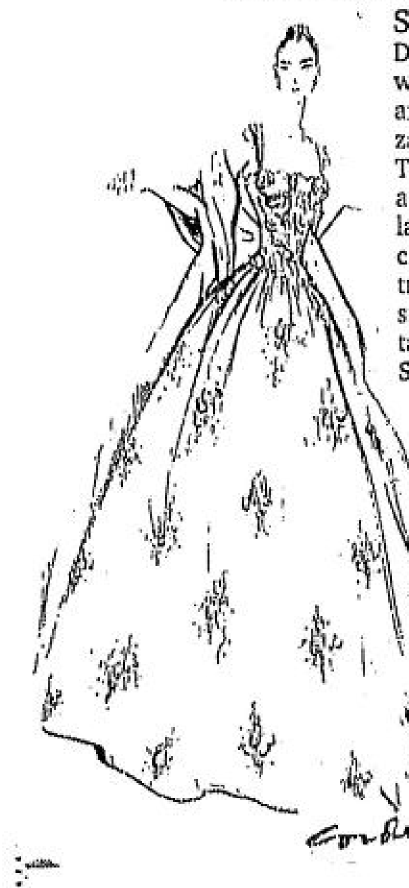
DOWN
1 Cut
2 Flu symptom
3 Like some donuts
4 Groan producer
5 Shakespearean snake
6 Equine exclamations
7 Kelly's possum
8 Goofs
9 Tabloid subjects
10 Dot follower
11 Minnesota twins?
12 Merit
13 '75 Wimbledon winner
14 More humid
15 "Alley —"
16 In progress
17 Soup scoop
18 Adams or Ferry
24 Actor Chaney
26 It needs to be threaded
29 Boom or gaff
31 Swindle
32 Wind instrument?
34 Spitz sound
35 Exec's deg.
37 Perplexed
38 Blend
39 Jai —
40 Army vehicle
41 "Makin' Whoopee" singer
42 Pro foe
43 "The King and I" setting
45 Brendel's instrument
47 Pigskin prop
48 Mubarak of Egypt
49 Helps a hood
50 Mosaic bit
53 Singer Tori
54 Torah, e.g.
58 Shade of green
59 Realm
60 Big bird
62 Indian city
65 Oven setting
67 — Lama
68 Improve
70 — kwon do
71 London borough
72 Furious
73 Short movie?
75 Funny fellow
76 Deadly
79 "It's a deal!"
81 — terrier
82 Drill sergeant's shout
84 West. alliance
85 Improve oneself, in a way
86 Behind schedule
87 Always
90 Aged, as paper
94 Poultry serving
95 Cobbler's need
96 Palindromic name
97 Asian ox
100 Nonclerical
103 It's down in the mouth
104 Vandellas' leader
105 Look
106 Biblical book
107 Summarize
108 Ocean vessel
109 Christie or Costello
112 Lion's pride
114 Melville work
115 Like Hitchcock's curtain
116 Couch
117 Served well
118 Creole veggie
120 — trip
121 Ltr. addenda
122 Where flocks frolic
123 "Tell — No" ('65 hit)
124 Outer edge



ANSWER ON PAGE F3

Milestones

We're accepting announcements of weddings and engagements. Please send the following typewritten information: names of engaged couple, names of parents, date and place of wedding, gown designer and other related information. Readers can send sketches of gowns and pictures of the couple at least two weeks before the wedding. This will be printed depending on space availability and at no cost to the sender.

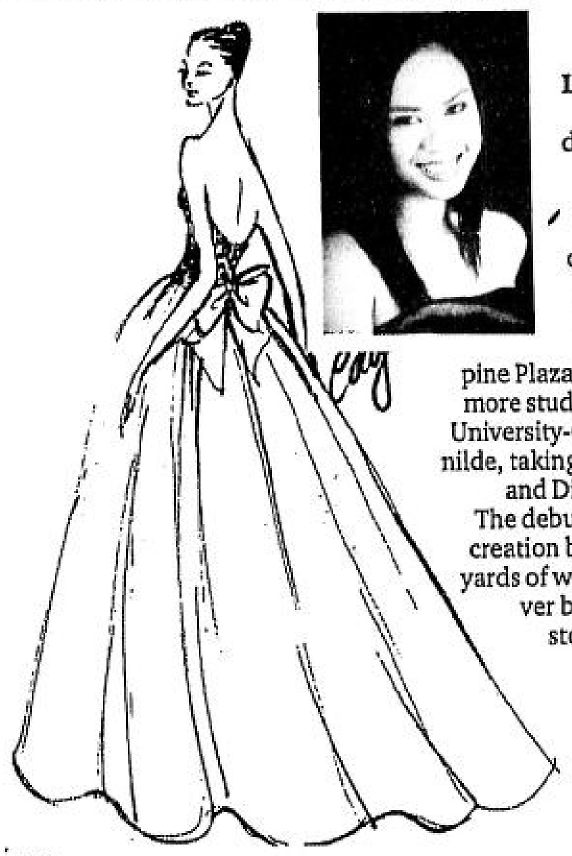


SCHOOF DEBUT

Debutante Katrina Schoof will wear a formal gown in beige satin and multilayered white silk organza designed by Auggie Cordero. The gown is decorated with white antique re-embroidered French lace, champagne caviar beads and crystal Swarovski stones and Austrian cut beads. Accent is frosted silk tulle shawl in ivory. The debutante's ball will be held today at Shangri-La Makati.

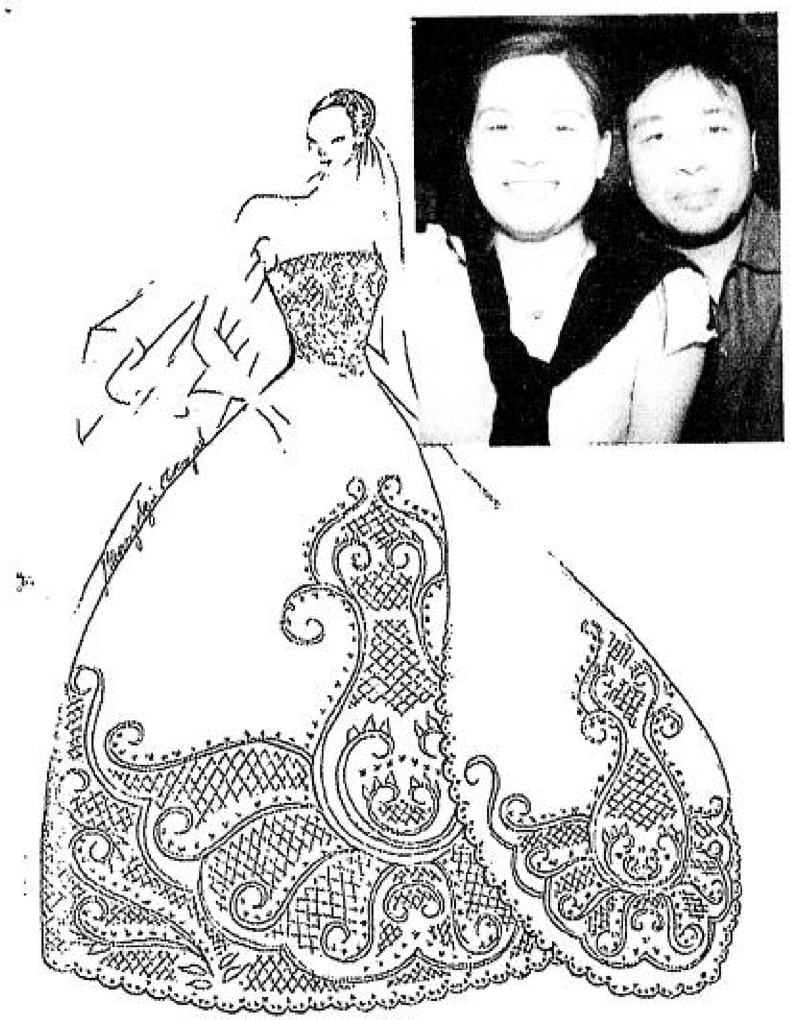
DIZON-SANCHEZ

David Dizon, son of **Rolando** and **Dedicacion Dizon** will wed **Marita D. Sanchez**, daughter of **Fernando** and **Margarita Sanchez**, at the Puerta Real Gardens, Intramuros, Manila, on Dec. 5, 4 p.m., with Pastor **David Sumrall** of the Cathedral of praise officiating.



AQUINO DEBUT

Loradel Dumlao L. Aquino, daughter of **Tony Boy** and **Loida Aquino,** will have a coming-out party on Nov. 29 at the Luzon Ballroom of the Westin Philippine Plaza. Lora is a sophomore student of De la Salle University-College of St. Benilde, taking up AB-Consular and Diplomatic Affairs. The debutante will wear a creation by **Edgar Allan** in yards of white tulle on a silver bodice with rhinestones and sequins.



VERGARA-VIRAY

Gizelle Pineda Viray, daughter of Mr. and Ms **Ernesto C. Viray** of Dau, Mabalacat, Pampanga, tied the knot with **Bernardo Asprec Vergara Jr.**, son of Baguio City Mayor and Ms **Bernardo Vergara Sr.**, on Oct. 28 at the Baguio Cathedral in Baguio City. Reception followed at the Baguio Country Club.

The bride wore a bustier corset in *piña* material with *callado* and intricate embroidery. Mixed stones, cut beads, pearls and a detachable train completed the elegant creation of designer **Manny Dizon Ocampo** of Angeles City.

GONZAGA-ESTOLAS

Maricar Estolas, daughter of **Ernesto** and **Corazon Estolas**, will exchange marriage vows with **Rhett Angelo Y. Gonzaga**, son of **Jesseflor and Rosalinda Gonzaga** on Dec. 14 at the Basilica of Our Lady of Charity, Agoo, La Union. Reception will follow at Villa Concepcion, Rosario, La Union.

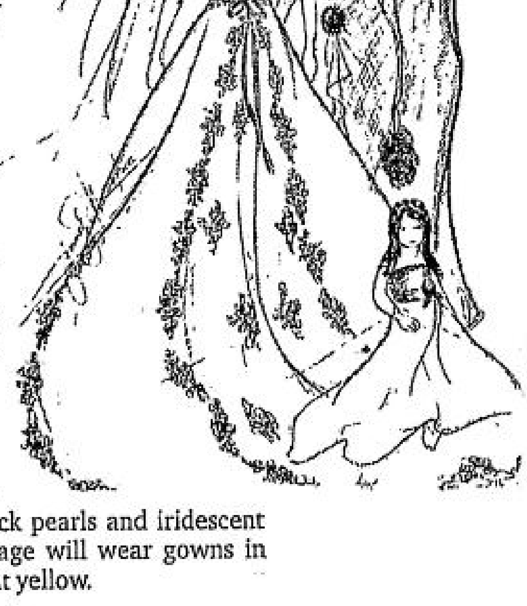
SANCHEZ-FERNANDO

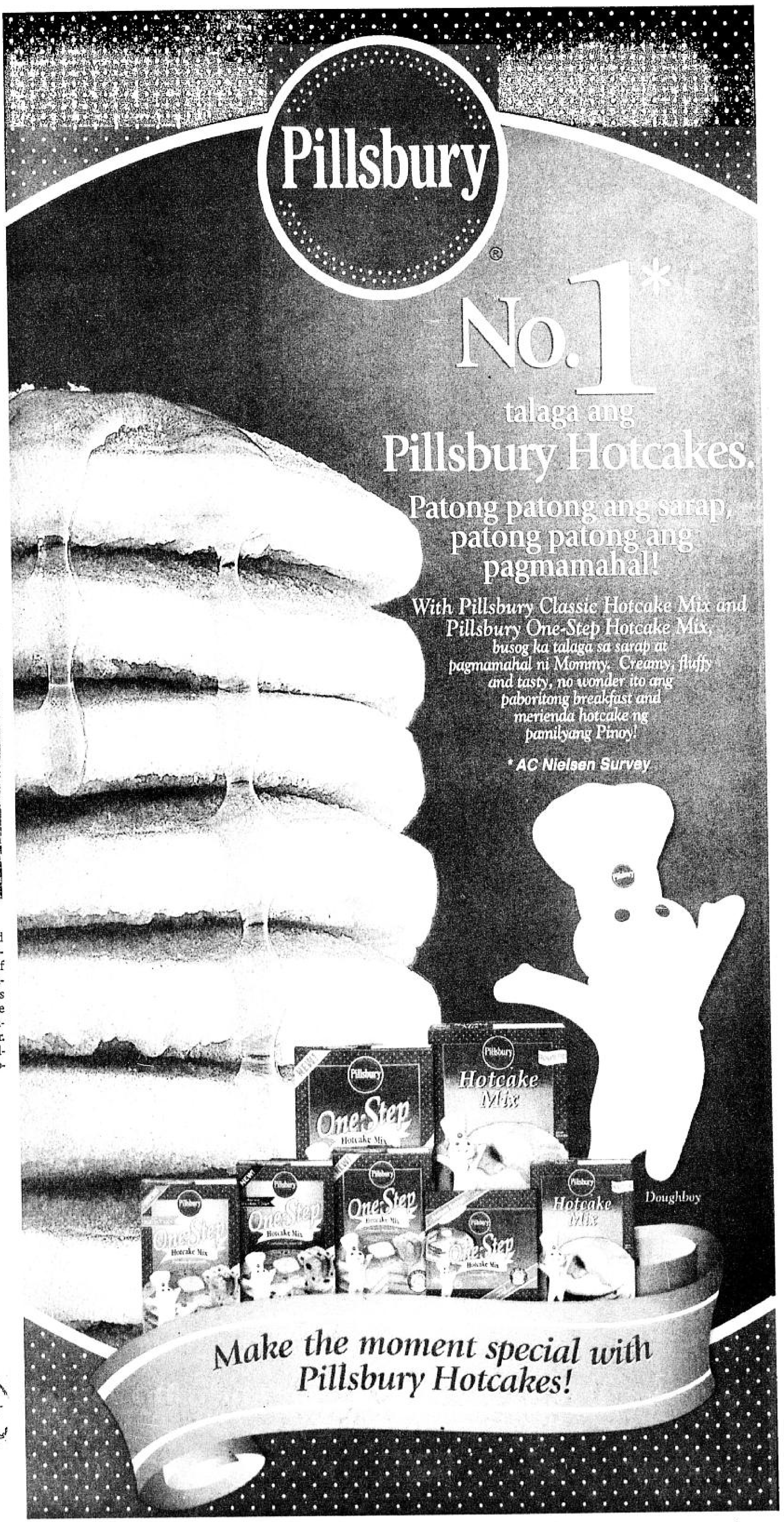
Rio G. Sanchez, son of Mr. and Ms **Federico Sanchez**, and **Lorena B. Fernando**, only daughter of Mr. and Ms **Marcelino R. Fernando**, will exchange marriage vows on Dec. 28 at the St. Augustine Parish Church in Baliuag, Bulacan. Rev. Fr. **Rosendo Manalo, Jr.** will officiate. Reception will follow at the Waterwood Park Clubhouse, Royal Palm Drive.

ESCAÑO-REYES

Ronald Escaño, son of **Rogelio** and **Carmelita Escaño**, and **Charlotte Reyes**, daughter of **Francisco Ruperto** and **Celia Reyes**, will be married on Dec. 14 at Sta. Rita de Cacia Parish in Philamlife Homes in QC. Reception will follow at the Social Hall of Philamlife Homes.

The bride will wear an off- white duchess satin strapless gown appliquéd with corded lace and embellished with transparent, metallic, mock pearls and iridescent sequins. The entourage will wear gowns in powder pink and light yellow.





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Milestones

EUSEBIO-RESURRECCION

Jonasar Eusebio, son of **Cesar** and **Angelita Eusebio**, will exchange vows with **Amabelle Resurreccion**, daughter of **Amado** and **Isabel Resurreccion**, on Dec. 14, 10 a.m., at St. Paul Parish, Lingga, Calamba City. The reception will follow at Ding-Hao Cuisine, Crossing, Calamba City.

ISIP-CONCEPCION

Ricardo A. Isip, Jr., son of councilor **Ricardo** and **Cristina Isip**, will wed **Belinda G. Concepcion**, daughter of Maj. **Reynaldo** and **Patricia Concepcion**, on Dec. 15, 4 p.m., at the Coconut Palace, CCP Complex, Roxas Blvd. Pasay City.

BURGOS-DE GALA

Nilo M. Burgos, son of **Sofronio** and **Rosita Burgos**, will marry **Lorenz M. de Gala** of Calaca, Batangas, daughter of **Lolita C. Mangubat vda. de Gala**, on Dec. 14, 9 a.m. at St. Rafael Church, Calaca, Batangas.

LLACER-WEE

Allie Chua Wee, daughter of **Ricardo** and **Alice Wee** of Zamboanga City, tied the knot with **Joseph Ting Llacer**, son of **Jose Llacer** and **Ting Pao** of Iloilo City, on Oct. 26 at the Sta. Maria Parish Church. The reception was held at the Amigo Terrace Hotel in Iloilo City. Allie wore a creation by **Bobby Castillo** of Chardin Davao.

ADRIAS-EDAÑO

Lawyer **Nilo F. Adrias**, son of Mr. and Ms **Daniel L. Adrias**, will wed Dr. **Liezel Ll. Edaño**, daughter of Mr. and Ms **Domingo H. Edaño**, on Dec. 27 at the Basilica of the Immaculate Conception (Manila Cathedral), Intramuros, Manila. Reception will follow at the Centennial Hall, Manila Hotel, Rizal Park, Manila.

HOFILEÑA-PAGUIO

Yna Marie E. Paguio, daughter of **Antonio** and **Alicia Paguio** of Quezon City, will marry **Ronald "Nonoy" Hofileña**, son of **Tomas** and **Ida Hofileña**, on Dec. 7 at the Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, Quezon City. Reception will follow at the Shangrila restaurant.

Norma Villanueva designed the bride's and her entourage's gowns, which are in shades of periwinkle blue and silver.

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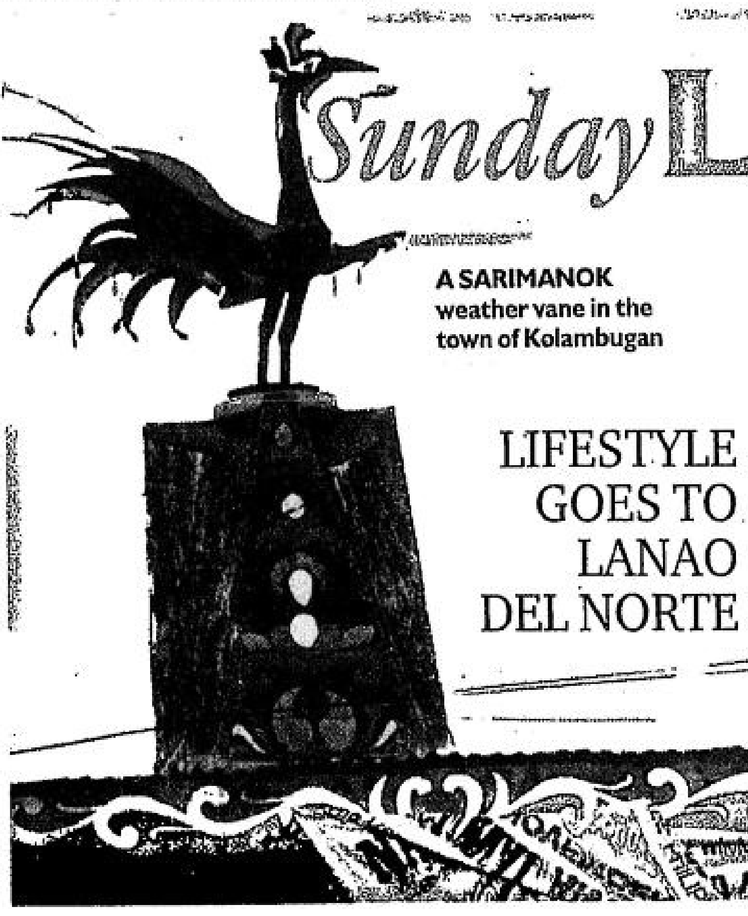
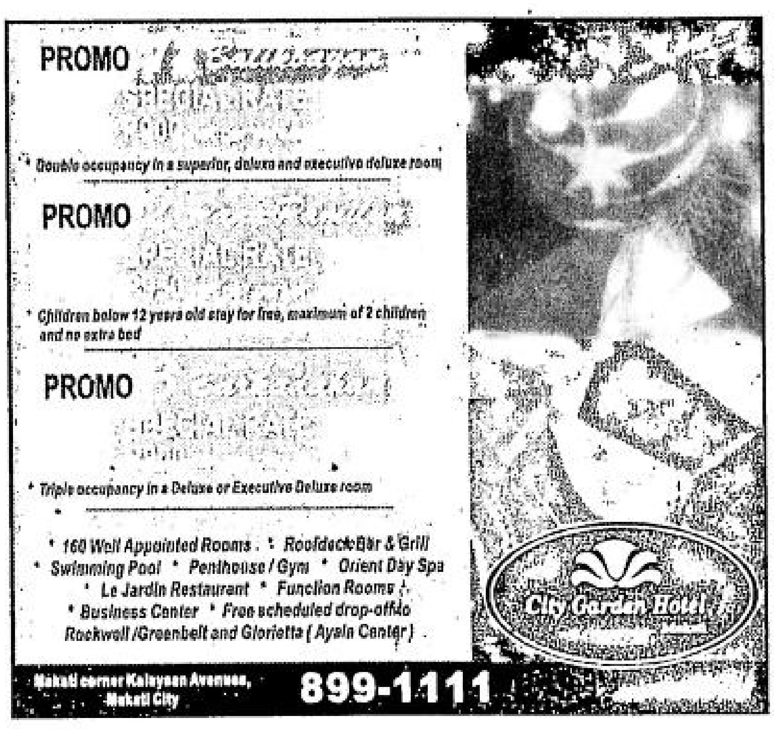
Sunday LIFESTYLE



A SARIMANOK weather vane in the town of Kolambugan

LIFESTYLE
GOES TO
LANAO
DEL NORTE



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Lanao del Norte looks beyond checkered past

Text by Linda B. Bolido
Photos by Romy Homillada

LANAO del Norte may have been the scene of some of the bloodiest events in Mindanao, but it has also provided the backdrop for many stories of rebirth, reconciliation and a quest for new beginnings, which have occurred almost as often as the violent episodes in its history.

The province, whose population consists mainly of Christians and Muslims, and where the main language is Cebuano, is the other half of what used to be a single political unit. The name Lanao comes from the Maranao word *ranao*, meaning "body of water" (thus, a Maranao is a lake dweller).

Lanao del Norte (LDN) is still locked in the minds of many Filipinos as the "arena" for the fierce fighting between the Ilagas and the Barracudas in the 1970s and, recently, violent encounters between government troops and the secessionist Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF), which claimed the life of at least one young lieutenant, freshly graduated from the Philippine Military Academy, and rendered many *barangays* in the ironically named Kauswagan (roughly progress) town, ground zero during the battles, ghost villages.

Perhaps there is no better example of how the province can rise beyond adversity and forge a new beginning than the marriage between two of its top officials. Gov. Imelda Quibranza Dimaporo is the daughter of former LDN Gov. Arsenio Quibranza, who was engaged in a bitter, even violent, political rivalry with the legendary Lanao del Sur Gov. Ali Dimaporo, father of Abdullah, representative of Lanao del Norte's second district and husband to Imelda. The rivalry gave rise to the sporadic Ilaga-Barracuda face-off in the 1970s.

Today, Lanao del Norte is again forging a new beginning following the destructive fighting in 2000. Just as the marriage between a Quibranza and a Dimaporo closed the Ilaga-Barracuda chapter in its history, the

PROVINCE/ E2

1ST LT. Jocelyn Datorin, the lone female in the 26th Infantry Battalion, the military contingent now securing the town of Kauswagan

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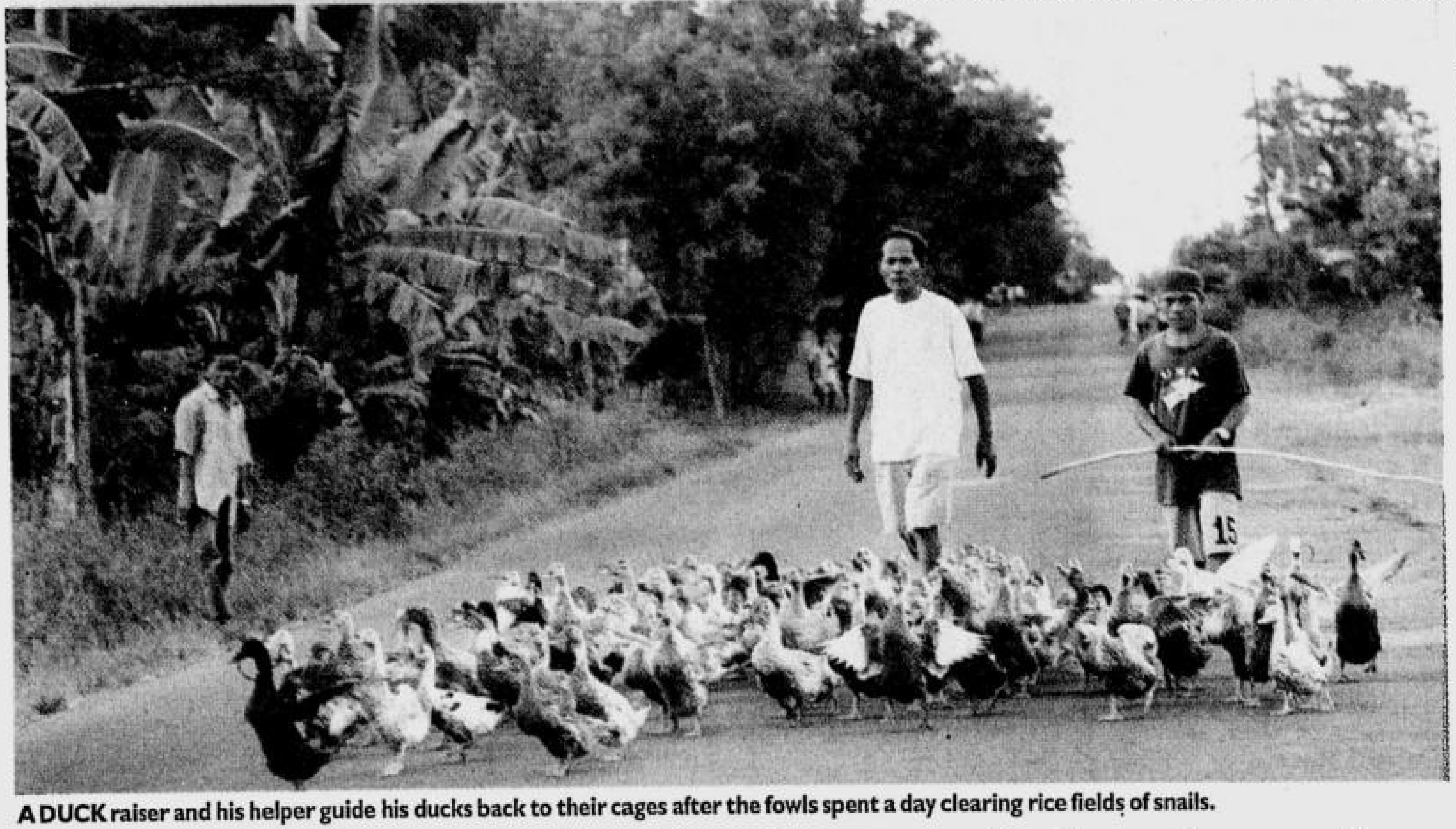

A DUCK raiser and his helper guide his ducks back to their cages after the fowls spent a day clearing rice fields of snails.

YOUNG Maranao lasses demonstrate the various ways with the *malong*.

MIKE Taratingan demonstrates how to play the *kubling*, a bamboo musical instrument.

Lanao del Norte looks beyond checkered past

From page E1

province is hoping that the transformation of the remote *barangay* Delabayan in Kauswagan will signal the end of another bloody episode in its existence. Delabayan, through the joint efforts of various nongovernment organizations, religious groups, the town's citizens—both Christians and Maranaos, is a village reborn. New houses have been built and given free to returning residents to replace those leveled by the bombing of the *barangay* and adjacent areas. A reliable and safe water source has been set up, livelihood activities introduced, and a mosque built.

> While trying to shed its bloody and violent past, the province also has its eyes firmly fixed on the future

More than a province shedding its bloody and violent past, LDN is also a place with eyes firmly fixed on the future. Even as LDN pursues economic viability vigorously, with such enterprises as *guso* (algae) propagation, raw material for plastic making, fish and prawn farming, environmental initiatives are also big in the province with mangrove replanting programs pursued in Kauswagan, Baroy, Lala and other coastal towns. Marine sanctuaries have also been designated. In the town of Lala, the province's seafood capital and main *kalamansi* producer, integrated pest management, which uses organic and indigenous means for fighting crop diseases, is being taught and pursued. *Kalamansi* orchards, for instance, rely simply on a soap and water solution and regular pruning of trees to control insects. Although an honest-to-goodness waste management program is in place so far only in Linamon, tentative efforts are being made by other municipalities, including the provincial capital Tubod.

Eco-tourism can be a very big thing in LDN if it can succeed in convincing tourists, both local and foreign, that despite a bloody past, the province can be an interesting, even rewarding, travel destination. People who can only think of Maria Cristina Falls upon hearing the word Lanao will learn some new names fast if ever they get to LDN. The falls of Tinago, Cathedral and Pagayawan; the spring of Kalilangan and the 5-ha Babuyan Lake are just a few of the breathtaking sights the province is rightly proud of.

LYN Atis stands behind an antique *kulintang* in the house of the Dimaporos.

HOW TO DIE BREATHING

backaches • asthma • loss of IQ points among children
In Metro Manila and in other major cities of the country, concern about air pollution stems mainly from high concentration of suspended particles and lead,
growth impairment • exhaustion • damage to central nervous system
both exceeding national and WHO health guidelines. It is estimated that 80% of Metro Manila populace and 31% in Metro Cebu are exposed to total
bronchitis • high lead content in the blood stream • coughing
suspended particles (TSP)- a main pollutant and PM10 levels that are above the standards. The small-dust like particles comprising PM10 are considered the
red spots on the skin • blurred vision • disorientation • headaches
most harmful air pollutant to human health; next to lead. Studies have shown that particles of this size or smaller can easily penetrate the lungs and cause
TB • cancers • hearing impairments among children • COPD
respiratory illnesses. Exposure to sulfur oxide(SO2) through PM10 is calculated to have caused 5,700 cases of respiratory illness among children, A 1996 data
cost of pollution as a percentage of income ranges from 2.5% to 6.1%
show that, exposure to PM10 have resulted in premature deaths and cases of lower respiratory illnesses and 25,000 restricted activity days. Lead emissions
about 2,000 people die each year as a result of exposure to Pm10.
are widely considered to be the worst type of emission from fuel combustion. 1996 data show that high levels of lead exposure have resulted to cases of
Economic loss is estimated at about US$140 million
coronary heart disease and 99,000 days of restricted activity. Metro Manila is the 3rd most polluted city in the world today. An ADB study shows that Metro
about 9,000 people in these places suffer from chronic bronchitis
Manila residents are actually feeding their lungs with dirty air filled with an alarming level of toxic pollutants. Within the road environment, measurements of
Economic loss is estimated at about US $120 million.
particulates reach excessive levels with daily concentrations frequently exceeding the ambient standards more than five times. Studies have also shown that
The number of people suffering from PM10 related respiratory
the main source of air pollution is vehicular emissions with vehicle population growing at about 10% per year in the early 90's. It is estimated that present
symptoms is quite high • Economic loss is estimated at about
levels of PM10 particles amount to about 116,000 tons a year, with road transport being the largest direct source. Vehicular emissions have resulted in 20%
US$170 million • total economic cost of PM10 exposure is
of all deaths among children under the age of five each year and reported cases of asthma have doubled over the last 20 years and rising rapidly. Given the
US$430 million
current levels of air pollutants going beyond the national and WHO standards, it is not far that the metropolis will soon turn into a "no man's land".

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MINDANAO Civic Center's sprawling stadium that can seat 7,000 spectators

MCC provides sports educational services to the people of Mindanao—Muslims, Christians and Lumads alike.

Center of Mindanao civic pride

Text by Vangie Baga-Reyes
Photos by Romy Homillada

THE SPRAWLING Mindanao Civic Center is a huge cultural, trade and sports complex.

People from all walks of life spend their time there in exercise and recreation. Joggers, fitness buffs and athletes make the rounds of the 64-hectare complex where the provincial trade center, wet and dry market, bus terminal, canteen and sports facilities are located. A golf course is being constructed.

"It has become sort of a park for us where we can jog in the morning and stroll around in the afternoon," says Richelieu Umel, Lanao del Norte's provincial information officer. She adds that families frequent MCC for some "fresh air."

Located in the provincial capital of Tubod, the MCC was built to provide sports educational services to the people of Mindanao—Muslims, Christians and Lumads alike.

Standing proudly on the mouth of Panguil Bay, the MCC's sports complex has played host to big events like the inaugural Mindanao Friendship Games last year. Next year, it will stage the Palarong Pambansa. Through it, the province has even made a bid to host the 2005 Southeast Asian Games, which could be the Lanao's breakthrough venture.

> Lanao del Norte provides a showcase of peace in a region often stereotyped as hopelessly wild and unsafe

MCC's world-class sports facilities include a football and track and field stadium that can seat 7,000 spectators, a multi-purpose arena with a capacity of 6,000, an Olympic-size swimming pool, VIP lounge, a tennis center and a 64-room hotel.

Perfect place

Australian Lancelot J. Irving, a consultant hired by the province to give direction to Lanao's sports development, says the MCC is a perfect place to develop young athletes and physical fitness students.

"There is no night-life here, no night-time distractions," said Irving. "MCC provides a total learning environment free from possible distractions and disruptions of junketeers."

That's because MCC is far from the busy districts of the province. Irving, who has been to Tubod for the third time, attests to the serenity of the place.

"It is very peaceful, my wife and I walk every night around the complex," he says. "What we have here that you don't have in Manila are the stars. After the clouds pass by you see the beautiful stars because there's no pollution here."

Not even the news of foreigners getting kidnapped bothers Irving, who holds a masters degree in business administration and is a member of the Sports Management Association of Australia and New Zealand. He is also a former gymnastics instructor and a swimming coach.

"I know that Mindanao has a lot of potential not only in terms of sports but also in cultural, tourism and economy," says Irving. "Lanao del Norte best represents that potential because it has what other regions in Mindanao don't have, which is peace and order."

The province officials, led by Rep. Abdullah "Bobby" Dimaporo, have thought of using sports as an instrument to attract investors who often have a misconception of the region being the hotbed of communist insurgency and Muslim extremism.

There are conflicts in Basilan, Tawi-Tawi and in other parts of Mindanao, but they are concentrated in a few, small places in the region, which is for the large part very peaceful and orderly.

Truly, for both the province officials and common folk, MCC is more than a cluster of spanking new structures of development, but a testament to the stability of the way of life in Lanao del Norte.

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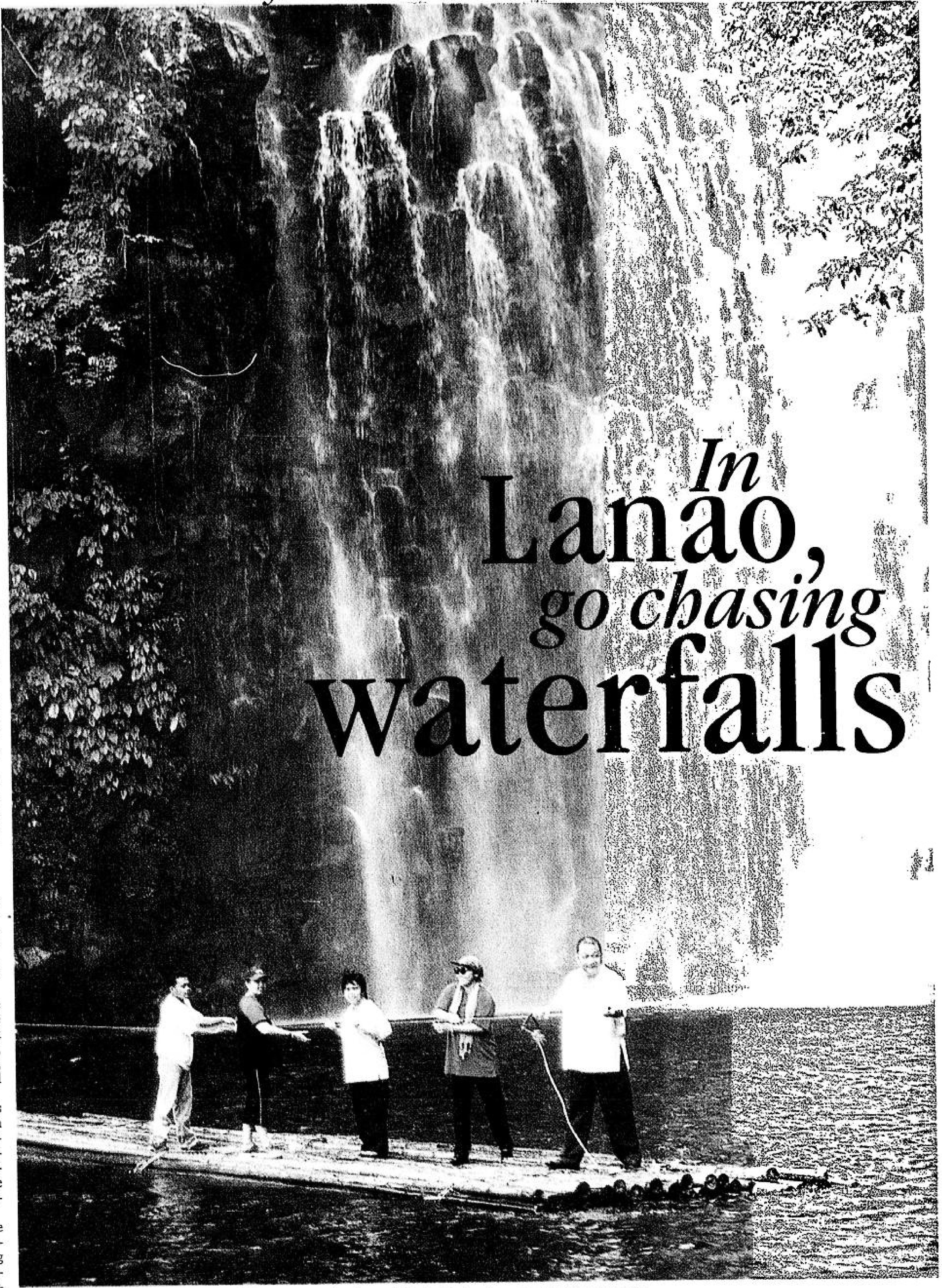
In Lanao, go chasing waterfalls



TINAGO FALLS. Mayor Cherlito Macas joins guests on a bamboo raft that will bring them closer to the waterfalls.

Text by Vangie Baga-Reyes
Photos by Romy Homillada

THERE are about 30 waterfalls in Lanao del Norte. While the Maria Cristina Falls in Iligan City remains unmatched in terms of beauty and splendor, there are "low-key" waterfalls that could probably give Maria Cristina a run for its money, so to speak.

Lifestyle visited a few of them recently, including the aptly named Tinago Falls.

Located in Linamon, the first town of Lanao del Norte, Tinago Falls is well hidden by thick vegetation and can be reached only by descending a stairs of 420 breathless steps. The only problem is climbing back up, but you won't be too concerned about it anymore because excitement builds up as you negotiate the concrete steps.

Going down, the steps have handrails in the first few flights, but the rest have none. Some steps are slippery with irregular sizes; some are too narrow, others too big. The path has several twists and turns. You can hear the raging sound the waterfalls makes from the initial steps. Mid-way, you can catch a glimpse of the deep blue waters below.

Tinago's basin is relatively small and the falls do not create one big splash. Instead, the falls are scattered thinly around the face of the cliff from up the forested top. Picnic umbrellas are planted around the riverbank where boulders and big trees are placed. There are trees of langka, banana, marang and durian as well as wild ferns everywhere.

But the waters are the superstars here. You can admire them from under the picnic umbrella or you can jump right into them. But park officers, working double time through the orders of Linamon Mayor Cherlito Macas, will require you to wear a life-vest, which you can rent for P20. If you don't feel safe enough —which is understandable because the waters are said to be 200 fathoms deep—there's a truck tire interior tube up for only P15.

We decided to take *gakit*, a bamboo raft that crosses the expanse of the waterfalls (you can reach the back of the waterfalls) through a rope tied around an enormous Alingatong tree on one end and on a huge boulder on another. A gakit ride is worth P10 per person.

More falls

In another waterfalls, a religious minister baptized five grown-ups in the emerald waters. The ritual was only too fitting because the falls is called the Cathedral Falls, located in Barangay Cathedral, Kapatagan town, some three kilometers from Tubod, the provincial capital.

Cathedral Falls has a major water source that plunges powerfully. The high walls are spread majestically, with well-defined rock formations, which make it look like a, well, cathedral. We didn't go near the falls, though, because we didn't want to disturb the ritual going on.

Next we visited the Pagayawan Falls. It has three mini waterfalls accessible only through rough and rocky road in Bacolod town. Because of its strong current, it became the proposed site of a hydroelectric power plant being initiated by the local officials through the assistance of the Japanese Banking for International Cooperation.

Legend has it that when visitors come, the waterfalls become stronger. We noticed it ourselves because as soon as we started taking pictures, the falls became more alive, furiously rushing down from 300 feet high and creating billowy froths below. "It's some kind of a show-off," says Merlinda Intong, Bacolod town tourism officer.

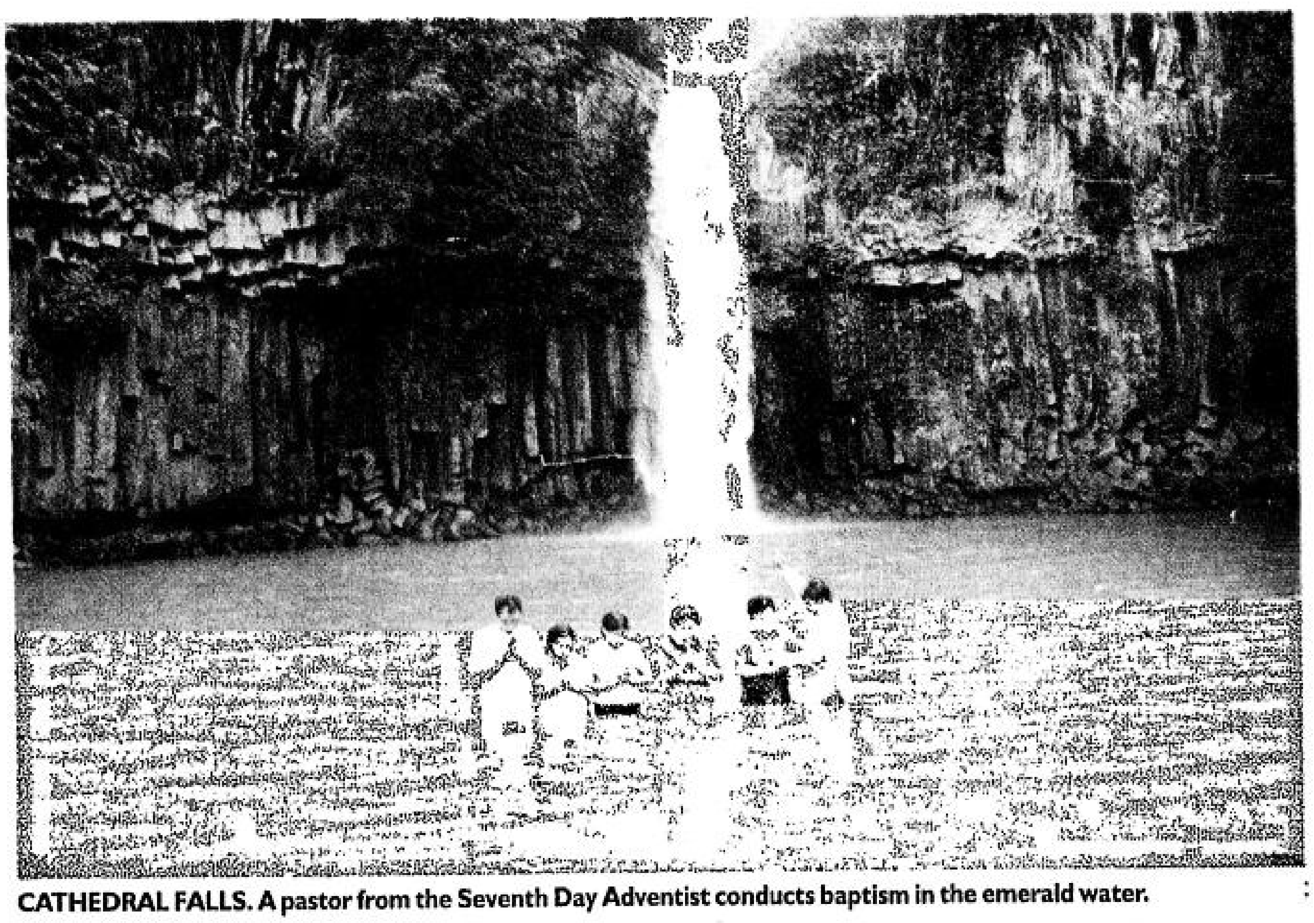
We didn't get to the other falls, such as the Sta. Cruz Falls, which is known as a miniature of the famous Niagara Falls; the Abaga Falls in Balo-i; the Kidalos Slide Falls in Kapatagan; the Pasayanon Falls in Matungao; the Munai Waterfalls in Munai; and the Fairy Falls in Linamon.

But we got to Kalilangan Spring inside Tubod. We saw women doing their laundry. Horses were being washed and kids were frolicking. Lake Babuyan is also in Tubod. It has serene waters surrounded by coconut trees.

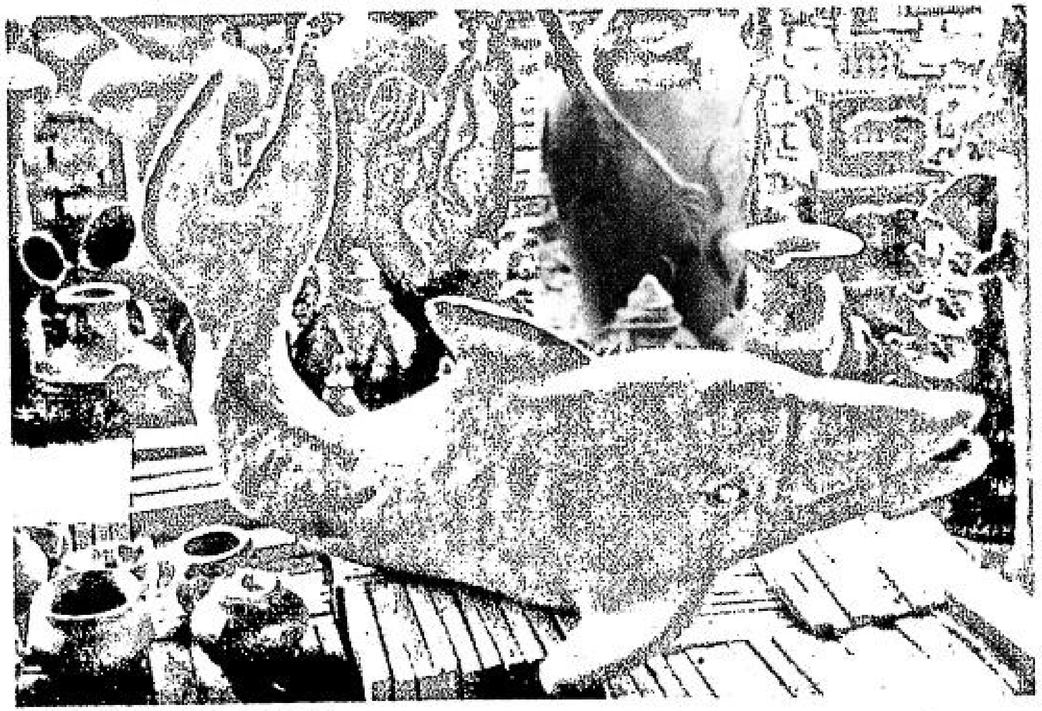
Lanao del Norte indeed has plenty to offer. And its waterways are a few of them.

With 30 other waterfalls, Lanao del Norte is definitely the province to get wet

PAGAYAWAN FALLS. Legend has it that when visitors come, the waterfalls become stronger.



CATHEDRAL FALLS. A pastor from the Seventh Day Adventist conducts baptism in the emerald water.



CERAMIC dolphin costs P600.

Lanao's rich loam and seas coupled with the creativity of its people have made it a center of folk arts

THE RAW materials in shell craft: *nasa* and *sigay*

Busy hub of handicrafts

Text by Cora Llamas
Contributor
Photos by Romy Homillada

SMALL rough shells taken from the shore. Hard muddy clay. A few pieces of inexpensive cloth and thread. Add to these precious hours of hard work and creative ingenuity and what emerge are handmade crafts that can very well grow into an industry.

Take, for example, Manang Luz Orchegui of Kauswagan, Lanao del Norte. Thirty years ago, she learned from Bohol the art of cleaning, refining and sewing seashells, and transforming them into home decor. She shared the knowledge with her daughter, who's now 24, and about 50 other families. Now, the lamps, bracelets, necklaces, and other products made from *nasa* and *sigay* have found contractors in Cebu who are exporting them to Europe.

A few intrepid kids would pick these shells from the shores. After being rinsed with water and chlorine to take out the dirt, the shells would be buried underground to expunge the smell. Then, they'd be baked a little and left out to dry under the sun. By the time the color has changed from dull gray to sparkling brown or ivory, the shells are incised for openings and then sewn together into a design.

It takes one to two days to assemble a lamp, which fetches P100 in the marketplace. The bracelets and necklaces take fewer hours and can be bought at a very cheap P20 per piece. Not bad for the buyer's home decor or gift giveaways—but the price still sounds awfully cheap for all the hard work that Manang Luz and her friends put into them.

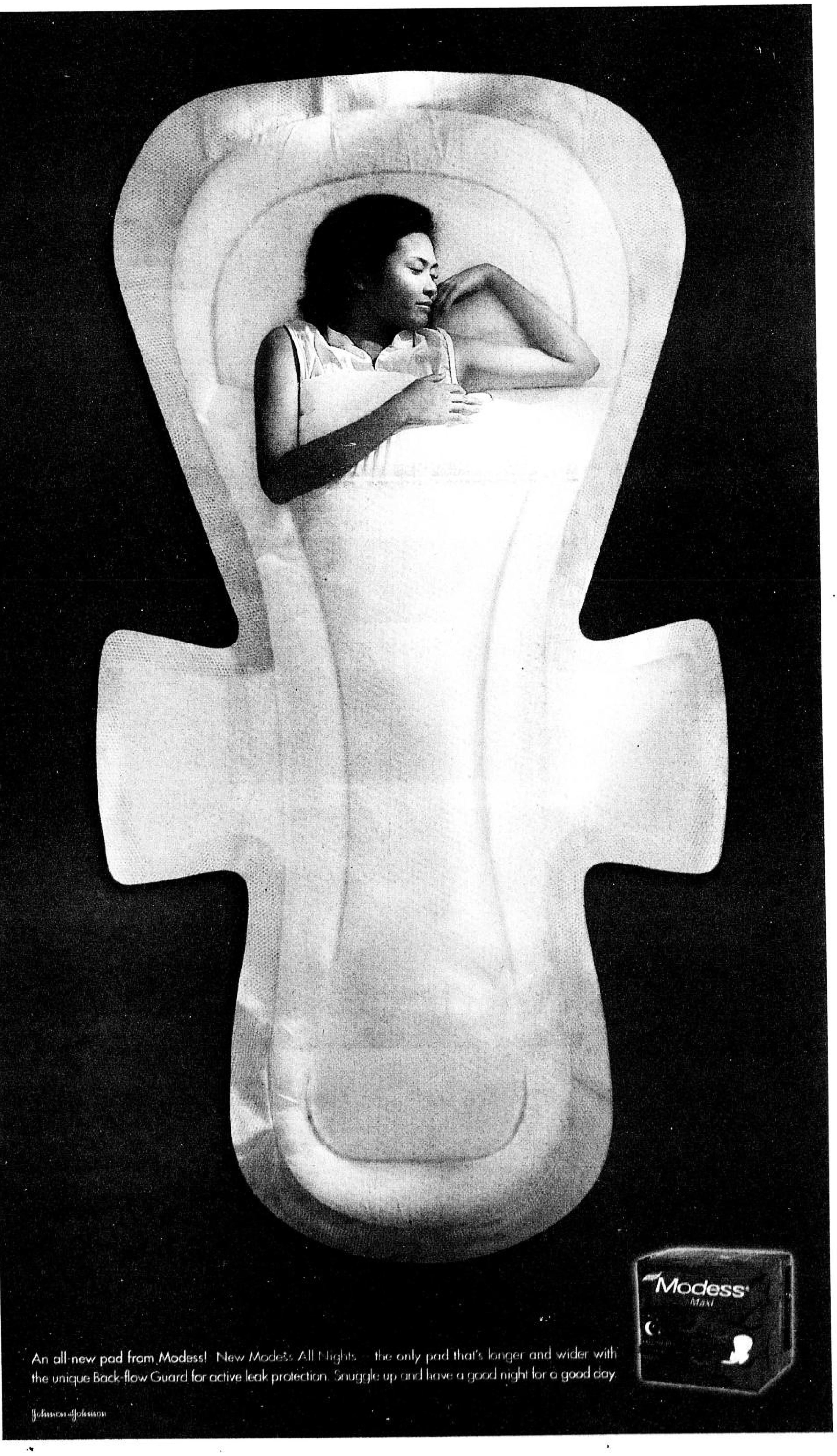
Clay works

In the government-owned Provincial Ceramics Center, production head manager Virgilio Cerecot and worker Elpidio Flores make

BUSY/ E7

ALING Luz hard at work at her handicrafts

FORMING the shape in ceramics



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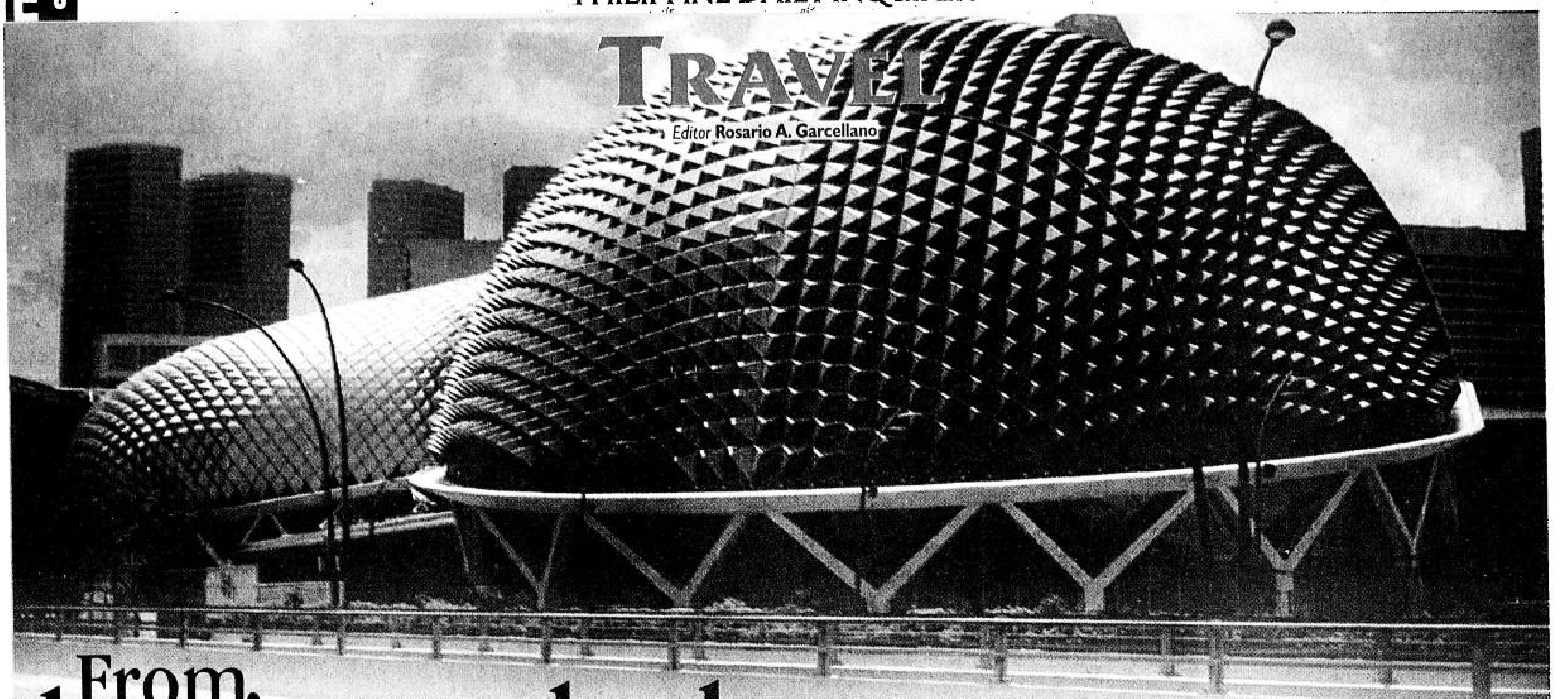
TRAVEL

Editor **Rosario A. Garcellano**



From business hub to center for the arts

By Stella O. Gonzales

EVEN residents of Singapore are wondering how to pronounce its newest attraction, the Esplanade-Theatres on the Bay.

Singapore views the Esplanade as the icon of the culture-rich global city that it wants to create

Recently, a Filipina living there took a cab with her two friends to the arts center. "The Es-plah-nahd, please," she told the driver.

"What?" the driver said.

Her companion tried a different pronunciation: "The Es-plah-neyd."

"Wha...?" he said, still at a loss.

The third girl said: "The Durian Arts Center?"

"Ah! The Durian Arts Center!" the driver said triumphantly.

The confusion is true not only for ordinary Singaporeans but even for the tour guides of the Singapore Tourism Board (STB). One of them said she even asked the STB to settle the pronunciation issue once and for all, but, at least at the time the INQUIRER was there last month, the body still had to give a final word on the matter.

The staff at the arts center calls it Es-plah-neyd, though.

"But," insisted one tour guide, "we don't say Pro-me-neyd, do we? We say Pro-me-nahd."

"Still," countered another, "we don't say le-mo-nahd. We say le-mo-neyd."

Whatever, the Esplanade, which opened on Oct. 12, is fondly called the Durian Arts Center by many, including some government officials, because of the unusual shape and spiky globes of its two dominant structures. Many people think the structures look like two halves of the durian fruit, although others say they look like the eyes of a fly. Still others (probably golfers) say they resemble golf balls even as some insist they remind one of giant microphones.

The dominant structures are the center's impressive Concert Hall and Theatre.

The 1,600-seat Concert Hall boasts the best acoustics that allow you to hear the softest whisper during a performance without the aid of a microphone. There are reverberation chambers with 26 double doors and 32 single doors and an acoustic canopy and acoustic curtains that provide optimum sound quality.

The 2,000-seat Theatre, on the other hand, has four levels in a horseshoe-shaped, Italian-opera-house style. It has two full-sized stages that facilitate swift scene changes. One of the center's guides says the stage can accommodate a 747 with no problem. Yes, it's that huge.

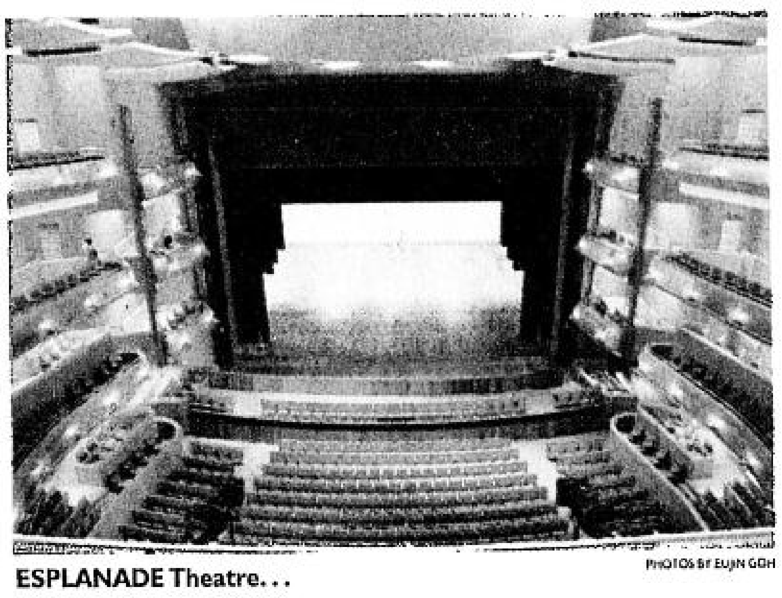
The Esplanade also has the Theatre Studio, which can seat 220 people, and the Recital Studio, which can accommodate 250 people and is ideal for chamber music and solo recitals.

Outside are the main Outdoor Theatre on the waterfront and The Edge, which is suited for medium-to-large-scale performances. There is a courtyard that allows diners to enjoy outdoor performances and the Roof Terrace, which has a magnificent view of the city and the marina and is perfect for reception parties at night, maybe even a wedding.

And, of course, there's a shopping mall and several dining places.

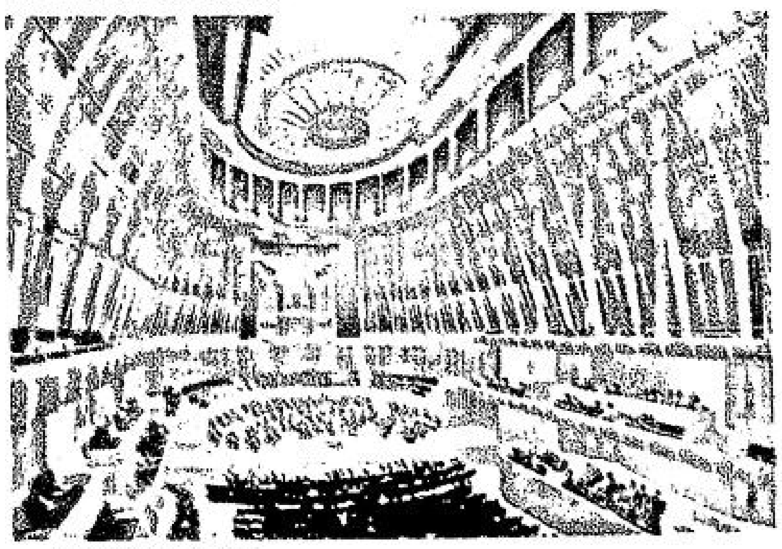
The S$600-million (or P180-billion) Esplanade sits on six hectares of land in Singapore's marina area, within walking distance to the Marina Square, Millennia Walk, Suntec City, Raffles City and City Hall MRT station.

For its three-week grand opening festival, the Esplanade featured, to name just a few, the London Philharmonic Orchestra and the New York Philharmonic, "Reminiscing the Moon" by the Singapore Dance Theater, "Raise the Red Lantern" by the National Ballet of China, and the world premier of "Marco Polo and Princess Blue" by the Singapore Chinese Orchestra. The prices of tickets to the main performances were a bit steep, but there were shows in the performance venues outside for those wanting to enjoy the arts for free. Among the performers in the free shows were Acrobat, an Australian group that never fails to stun audiences with strenuous acrobatics, the Velayev Family, one of the few surviving families of tightrope walkers from Caucasus, and Sistem, an unconventional music group from Romania that makes music from oil drums, cups, lanterns, bottles and even basketballs.

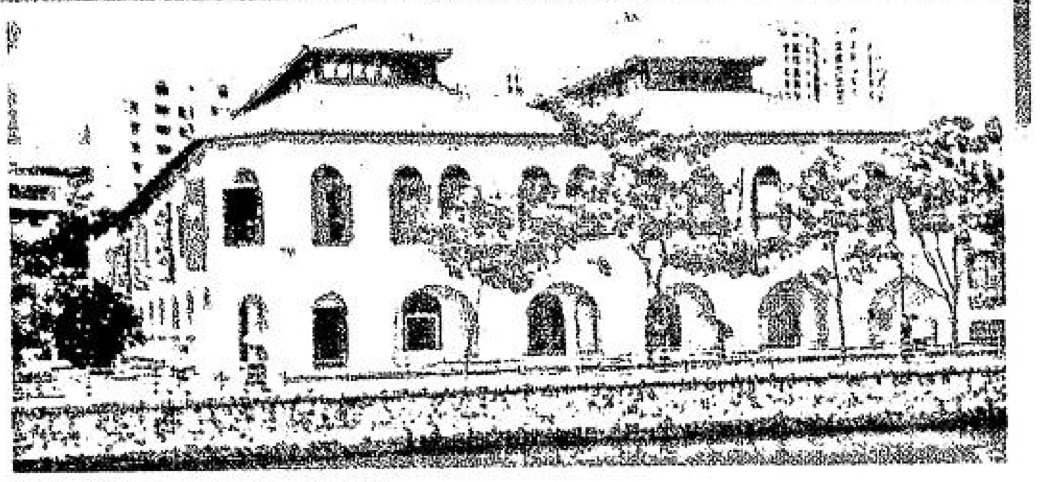


PHOTOS BY EUJIN GOH

ESPLANADE Theatre. . .



. . . AND Concert Hall



SINGAPORE Tyler Print Institute

The Esplanade is further testament to Singapore's ambition of becoming a global city for the arts.

The Singapore government, which initiated the project, sees the complex as the icon of the culture-rich city-state it wants to create. The dream is to draw not only foreign tourists but also local residents to the cultural shows and exhibits featured not only in the Esplanade but in other entertainment centers and museums as well.

One of these is the Singapore Tyler Print Institute on Robertson Quay. The STPI is dedicated to education on print and papermaking and exhibits quality works of art by prominent international print artists. It has its own workshop, paper mill and art gallery in a restored 19th-century warehouse.

Last April, the STPI featured works of Frank Stella, who is internationally recognized for mixed-media printmaking. The institute, in fact, has a video documentary of the making of Stella's "Juam"—it's awesome to see the working process behind the 144-color relief/etching/aquatint/lithograph/screenprint/woodcut/engraving on two sheets of handmade, hand-colored paper.

Another cultural attraction offered by Singapore is the Asian Civilizations Museum house at a 1910 school building on Armenian Street. It's the youngest of three national museums in Singapore and seeks to promote awareness and appreciation of the ancestral cultures of Singaporeans and their links to Southeast Asia and the rest of the world.

On permanent display is the rich material heritage of the Peranakans—the Straits-born Chinese.

The National University of Singapore Museum, which is housed at the NUS campus, hosts the Lee Kong Chian Art Museum featuring China's 7,000 years of rich culture, the Ng Eng Teng Gallery featuring a collection of Singapore's foremost sculptor, and the South and Southeast Asian Gallery, where classical traditions and modern trends in ceramics, textiles, sculpture and paintings are on view.

Singapore has many other museums to offer and a few more are either being constructed or planned. All are part of the city-state's dream to become the international artistic hub of Asia.

With its strategic location at the crossroads of Asia and the West, Singapore is in a unique position to present the arts of the world to the region and the region's arts to the world.

As Lee Yock Suan, Singapore's minister for information and the arts, said in 2000: "To become a thriving and vibrant arts center of the world is a natural development from Singapore's success as an international business hub."

TRULY DUCKY

Officially "hatched" last June, the Ducktours is Singapore's newest theme tour attraction. For 75 minutes, one travels on land and water on board a Vietnam War-vintage LARC (Light Amphibious Resupply Cargo), passing through several key landmarks and attractions, including the Merlion Park, the City Hall and the Marina. It can be quite a thrill, especially for kids. Tickets—at S$33 for adults and S$17 for children—are available at Suntec City Mall.

TRAVELBRIEFS

Baguio arts fest

IT'S one of the best times to be in the highlands with the 6th International Baguio Arts Festival kicking off last Friday.

The 12-day event celebrating Asian arts and culture is hosted by the Baguio Arts Guild in cooperation with the City of Baguio and various cultural groups and art galleries/associations there.

It will integrate with the Baguio Grand Festival, which opens today with a parade.

The festival, with the theme "Tipon Hilom: Art Convergence—A Healing," is aimed at connecting spaces and finding common threads to unite people and pool energies to attain common goals.

The executive director for this year's festivities is Dr. Katrin de Guia, wife of Filipino filmmaker Kidlat Tahimik. The officers of the 2002-03 Baguio Arts Guild are Sonny Balanga, president; Maela Jose, vice president; Diane Mondok, secretary/treasurer; Art Tibaldo, public relations officer; and Willy Magtibay and Shanto Verdun, board members.

Among the participants are the Greenhouse Effect Gallery, Tam-awan Village, La Azotea Gallery, Mary Knoll Sanctuary Gallery, Baguio Mountain Provinces Museum, University of the Philippines Museum, St. Louis Art Department, Salud Bistro Gallery, Café by the Ruins, Villa Romana, Iggy's Place, Garden Café, Brent School, Camp John Hay, Mario's and Atenara Café/Nevada Square.

Holiday treat

UNTIL Jan. 15, Traders Hotel on Roxas Boulevard is offering a special holiday package where guests can enjoy fun and games at the nearby Star City or relax and enjoy the Manila Bay sunset in the comfort of a superior room.

The package rate (P1,250 per person, triple sharing; P1,550 per person, twin sharing) includes buffet breakfast; Star City ticket covering entrance, unlimited number of rides, and show; 20-percent discount on food and beverages; free use of swimming pool; and early check-in and late check-out.

A maximum of two children may share a room with their parents free of charge.

For reservations, call 527-9107 or 523-7011 local 2508, fax to 527-9144 or 525-8626, or e-mail thmres@shangri-la.com.

'Tourism for Tomorrow'

FIVE projects won top honors in the British Airways Tourism for Tomorrow Awards, the travel industry's leading environmental tourism recognition.

The winners of this year's competition—which was co-sponsored by Six Continents PLC, a leading global hospitality group with over 3,300 hotels in nearly 100 countries and territories—were chosen from entries from 32 countries.

They will compete for the Global Award, which will be unveiled at a ceremony in London on Nov. 27.

The winners in the five award categories are:

- Tribes Travel, Suffolk (tourism organization). The firm is run according to a supplier vetting program as well as fair-trade principles ensuring that an average of 75 percent of the trip sale price is returned to the host country.
- Jaisalmer in Jeopardy, a British-registered charity, in association with Greaves Travel (built environment, covering environment-friendly new buildings or renovation work). The project is dedicated to saving the historic Indian fortress city of Jaisalmer, which sits on a hilltop in the Thar Desert of Rajasthan.
- Club Sun N' Sand, Kenya (accommodation project). The local community has become an integral part of this luxury holiday resort with self-employment opportunities for local entrepreneurs, an education program for young children, and a basic education and health awareness scheme for women.
- The Oak Hammock Marsh Interpretative Centre, Canada (environmental experience). Situated within a vast wetland area of international importance, this center encourages people to support wetland conservation and create a healthier environment for both wildlife and people.
- Bouma National Heritage Park on Taveuni Island, Fiji (national parks and protected areas). The conservation work and tourism in this 15,000-hectare park has given Taveuni residents sustainable livelihoods and provided funds for educational development.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Busy hub of handicrafts

From page E5

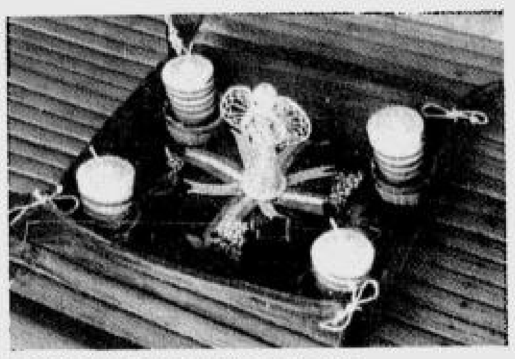
a living by churning out dolphins, mosques, horses, and your average *kalan* from clay heated in a furnace. The raw material is terracotta clay bought from a small town named Patudan. After being refined and softened by heat, it is poured into a modeling urn, the instrument used by the worker to apply design into the now melted earth. The smaller pieces are hand-formed.

In a given day, the Center makes about 1,000 pieces of home decor, 20 pieces of the large figurines, and 60 pieces of flower vases. The biggest piece is a 5-ft ornamental jar that takes a week to form and costs P5,000. Other pieces cost as follows: mosque, P1,000; dolphin, P600; fountain, P200; house, P150-200; and eagle, P150. The best-sellers, though, are the less expensive flower pots and wedding give-away items.

Word of mouth has gotten around, and customers from surrounding regions now routinely buy by the bulk from the Center. Cerecot and his crew don't want to stop there, though, despite the rave reviews; plans are underway to create glazed-made items.

In the quiet sleepy town of Sultan Naga Dimaporo, 18-year-old Lucy Mae dela Cruz and her folks have discovered another hobby outside of TV and swimming at the nearby beach: decor cross-stitching.

The Biology sophomore first learned the trade in her home economics class. Soon after, Lucy Mae was patching up three-to-four-ft picture frames of the Last Supper, running horses, mountains and valleys, and Home Sweet Home signs. The bigger portraits would easily cost a buyer P5,000 in Manila. What it costs Lucy Mae and her parents, who have taken up the hobby with her, are P2,000 and a lot of man hours. One huge cross-stitch painting would take about a year in the making.

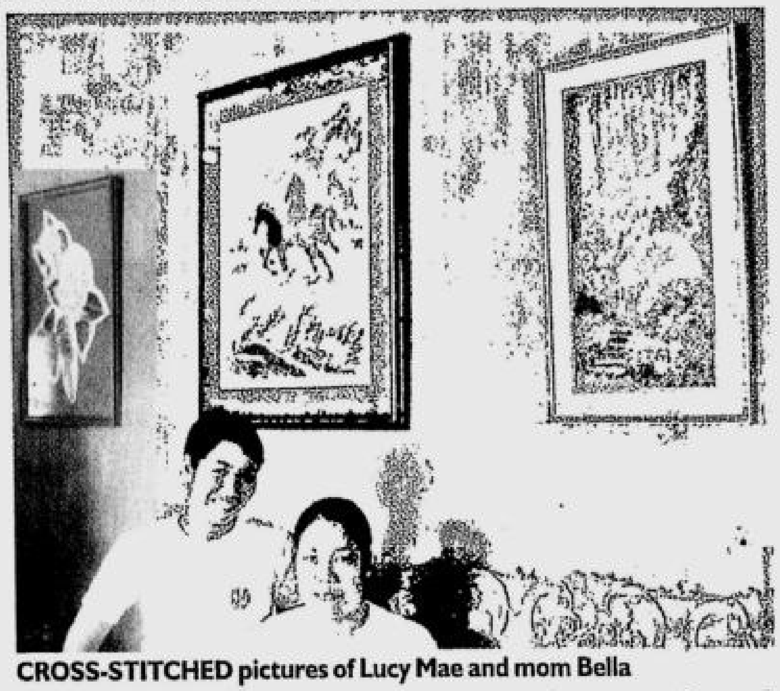


HOME-MADE Christmas decor

Lucy Mae and parents Joseph (now a seaman) and Bella, would alternate in the sewing; she'd end up doing it on the weekends due to her dorming days at the Mindanao State University.

The small, but eye-catching candle Christmas decor at the living room was another experiment that paid off. At P5 per white candle, P7.50 per thread meter, a pack of gold and silver caps, and a P70 tray, the *puhunan* is P150. What is challenging about this particular piece is lacing up those thin exquisite ribbonettes around the candle and sprinkling strategically the gold and silver dusts to create a glitzy, celebratory aura.

Looking for something not so pricey and yet very nice to look at? During your next shopping, try sourcing out some of these original stuff from Lanao.



CROSS-STITCHED pictures of Lucy Mae and mom Bella

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Main Office
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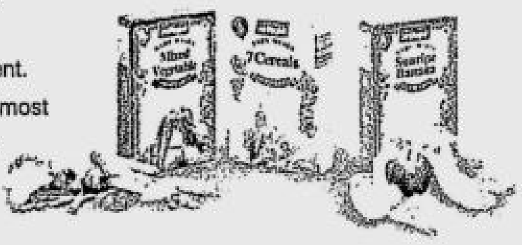

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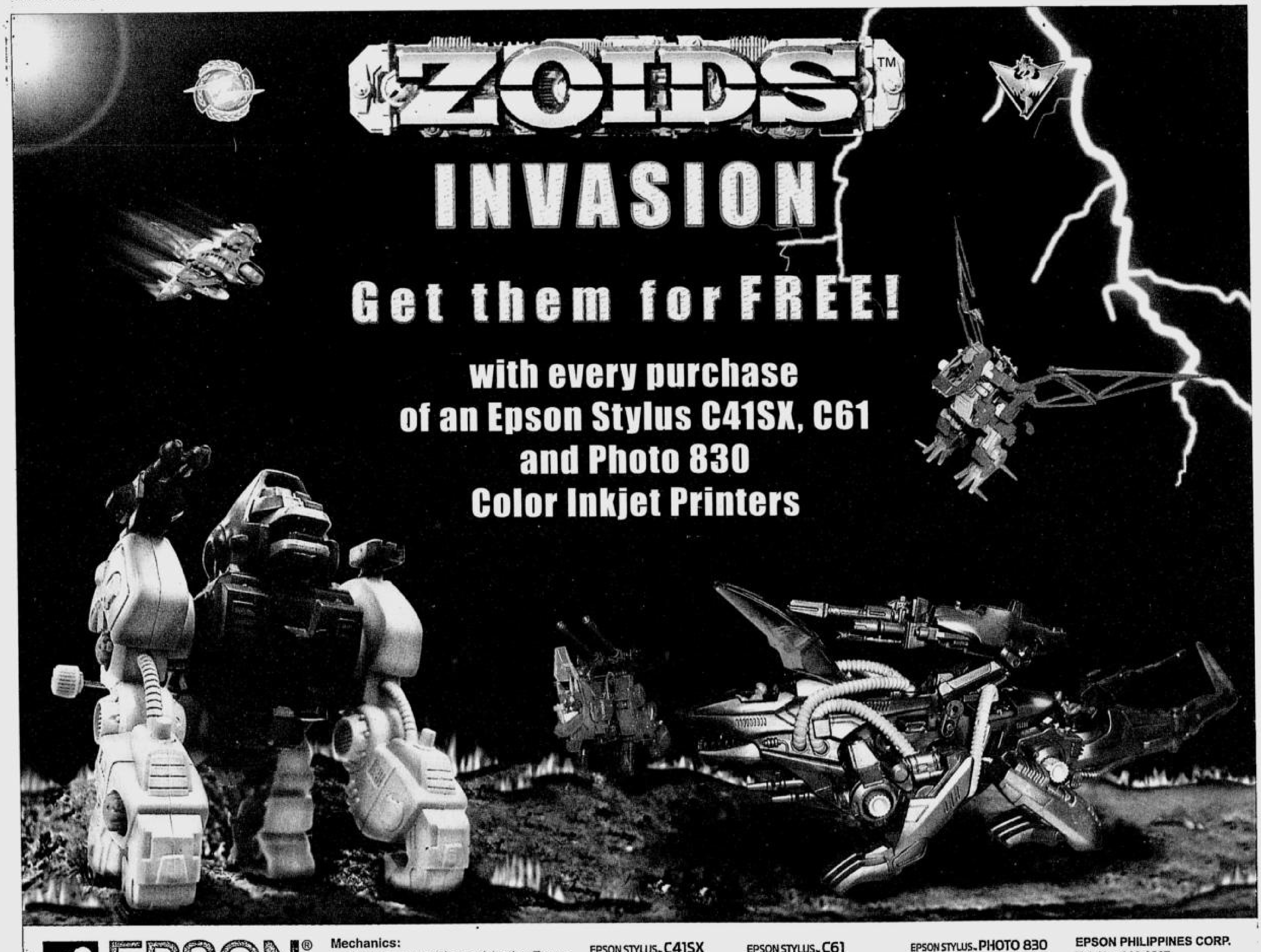

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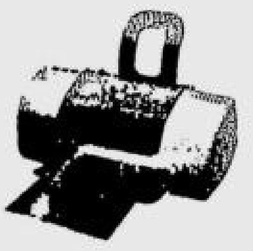

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LIFESTYLE

Level-headed, simple, friendly, and totally unaffected by the famous clan name

Poised to live up to the legacy

By Cora Llamas
Contributor

LEVEL-HEADED, smart, friendly, with a sly sense of humor, and seemingly unaffected by all that clan wealth, power and influence. These spring to mind when one first meets Fatima Aliah Dimaporo, oldest daughter and second child (of five) of Lanao del Norte Rep. Abdullah "Bobby" Dimaporo and Gov. Imelda "Angging" Q. Dimaporo.

The 21-year-old Aliah admits that she and her siblings were totally oblivious of the family's clout, its perks and friction points, until she finally returned home to her native Mindanao. The Dimaporo brood—Aliah, Mohammad Khalid, 22; Mohammad Nazrollah, 19; Mohammad Abdulsalam; 18; and Sittie Aminah, 16—all grew up in sheltered Manila. Her high school was spent in the exclusive Brent International School, and college was in the University of the Philippines (a year in Los Baños and three years in Diliman). The only time she'd visit the hometown was during the annual Araw ng Lanao in July.

"It was culture shock at first," Aliah admits of her rediscovery of her roots. "Even UP was a little bit of a shock; you're forced to be fluent in Filipino. Here, people don't really speak English. Because I come from Manila, they think that all I know is Tagalog. But I grew to understand Visayas, and now I'm beginning to speak a little bit of Maranao."

Another lesson learned was "living with less." "I didn't realize how overpriced and expensive in Manila things are until I came here," she explained. "I shop in the 'palengke,' and everything is simpler."

> Fatima Aliah Dimaporo may be the face of the future of Mindanao

Not being part of the neon Manila nightlife, she doesn't look for it; what she does miss are the many restaurants, especially those offering Japanese cuisine. "But we have *kinilaw* here," she shrugs with a smile, referring to the regional fish delicacy.

Aliah praises her parents for their dedication to public service. As a child, whenever the call of public duty interfered with her parents' family time, "I didn't [understand it]," she recalls. "Now, they're spending more time with us. But if they don't, I'd understand now."

Eye-opener

Living with her parents proved an eye-opener: "Every day, they'd sleep past midnight because they'd be entertaining guests, and then they'd wake up at 7 a.m. and there would already be guests waiting for them. I had no idea how hard they worked until I got here. I took them for granted, and I feel awful about that."

Any plans to follow in their political footsteps?

"Right now, I don't want to, but [as for the future], you can never tell."

Currently, the Sociology graduate, who still harbors her childhood dream of being an architect one day, has her sights set on the Ateneo Law School. But the nearest thing on her plate is her father's suggestion: "to study the culture." Then there are the forthcoming Mindanao Friendship Games where she might do the same job she did last year: helping out in the Secretariat, "writing IDs," assisting in operations and doing legwork.

If there's one thing she'd like to do for the people in Lanao, it's to "concentrate on the youth and promote sports, definitely soccer." A soccer buff herself who has substituted run-

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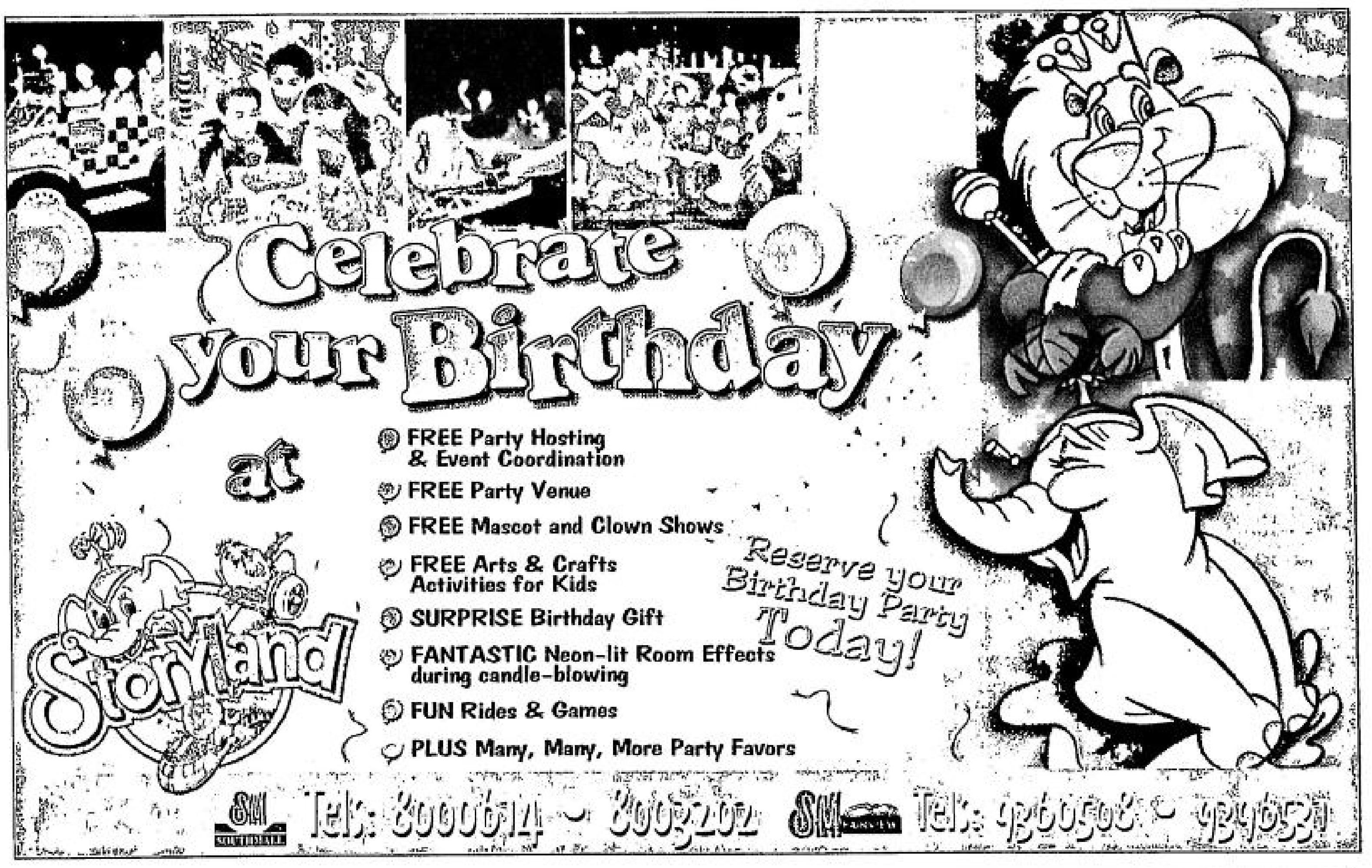

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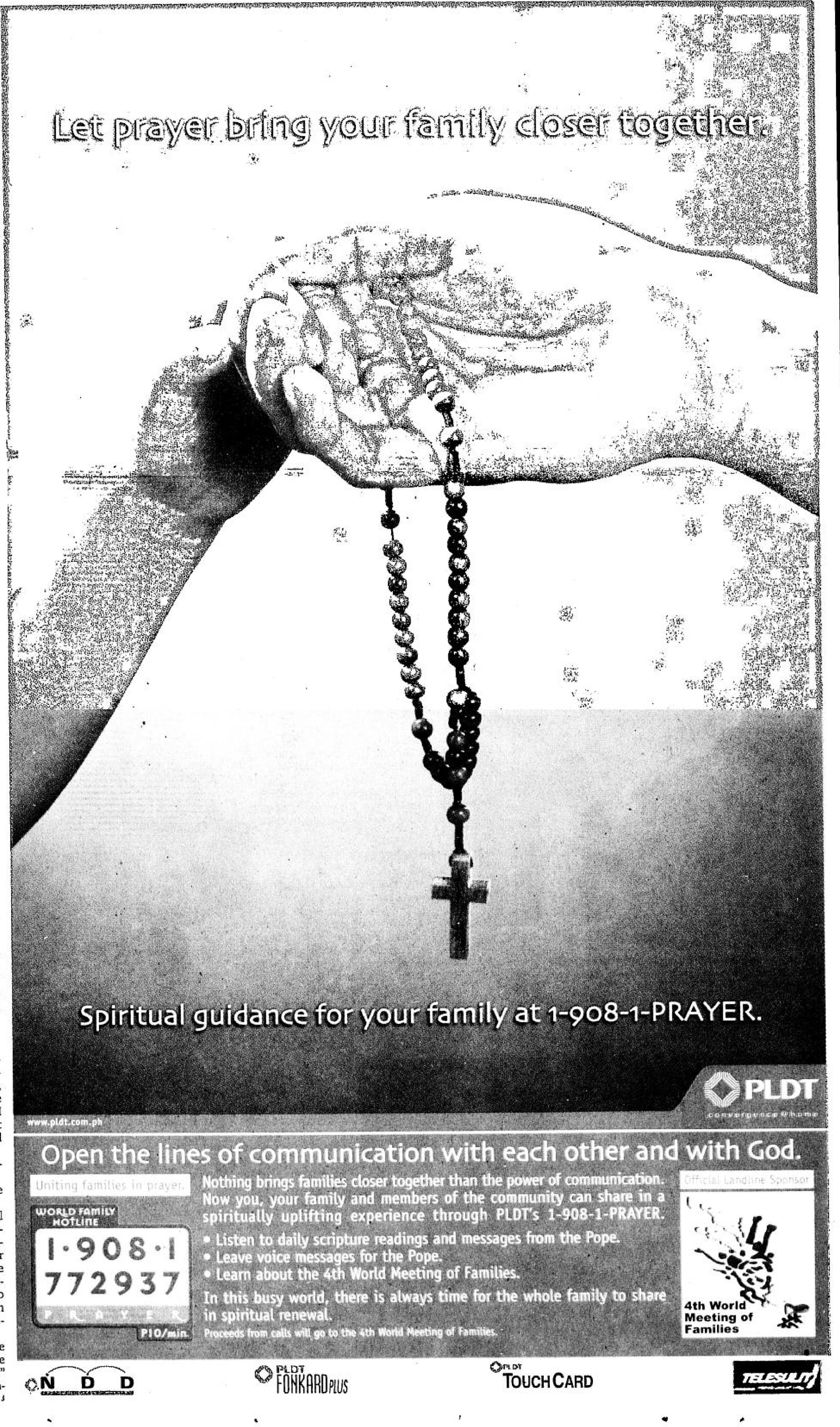

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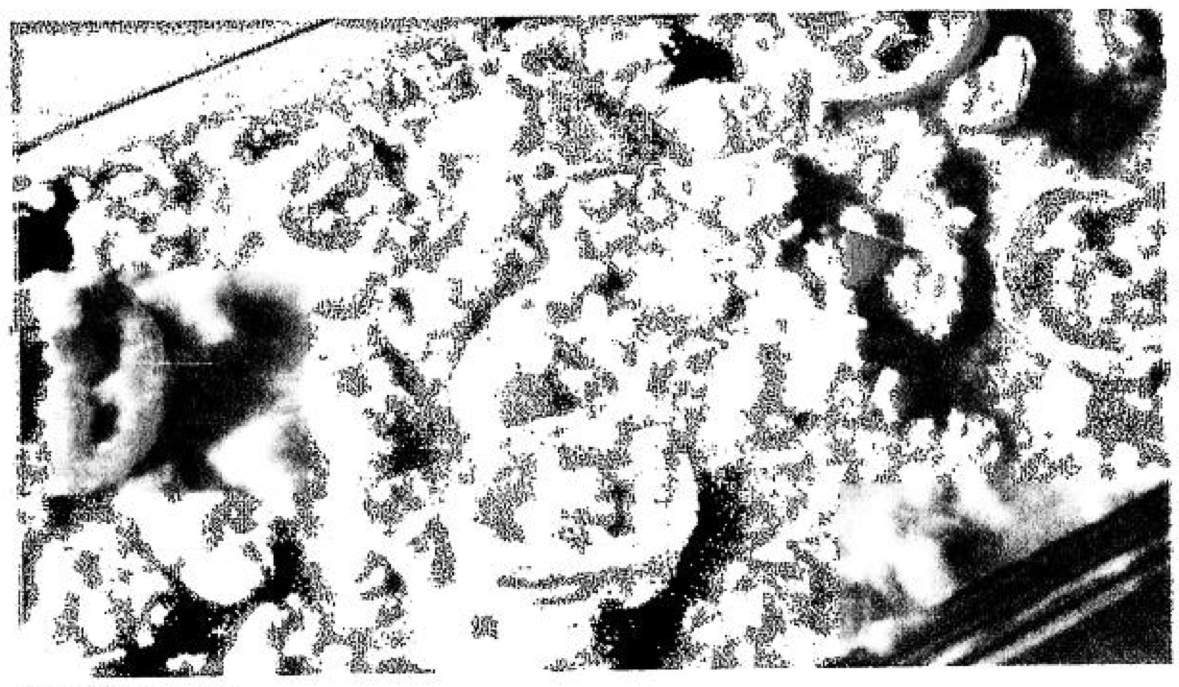
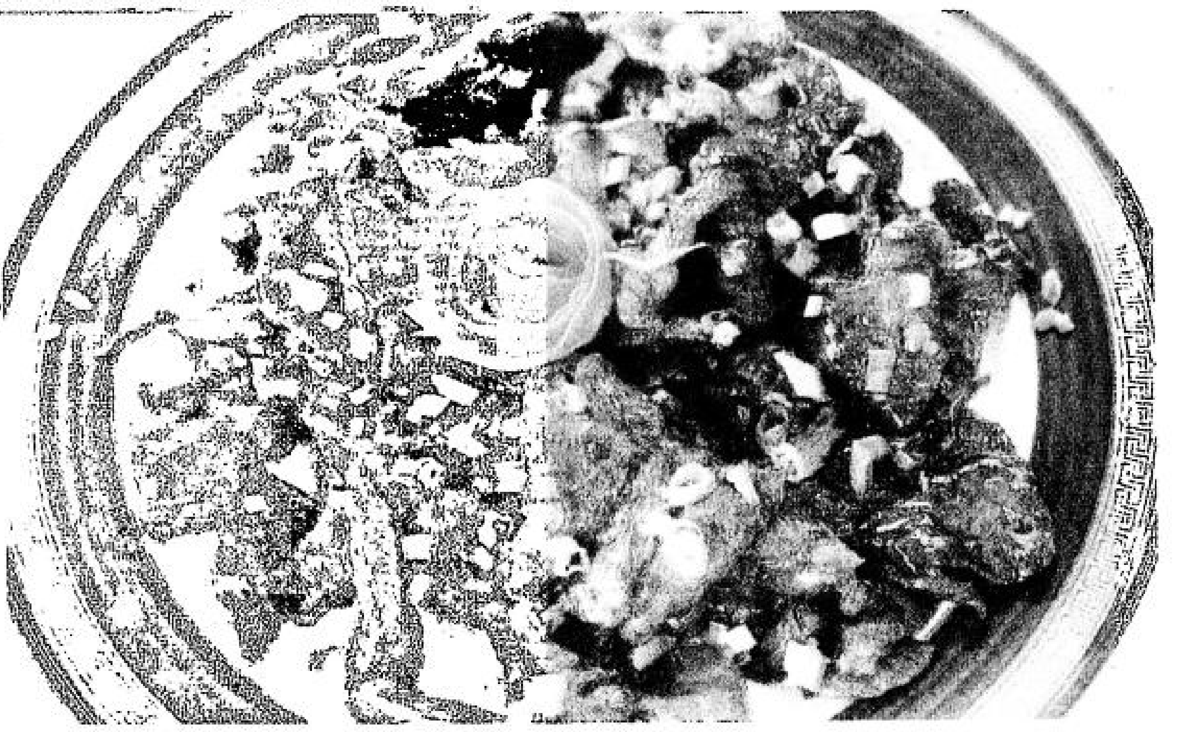


***KILAWIN** na tanigue*



LANAO'S politically correct tocino—beef instead of pork

The smells and tastes of Lanao

> The bounty of the province is perfectly evident in its culinary galaxy

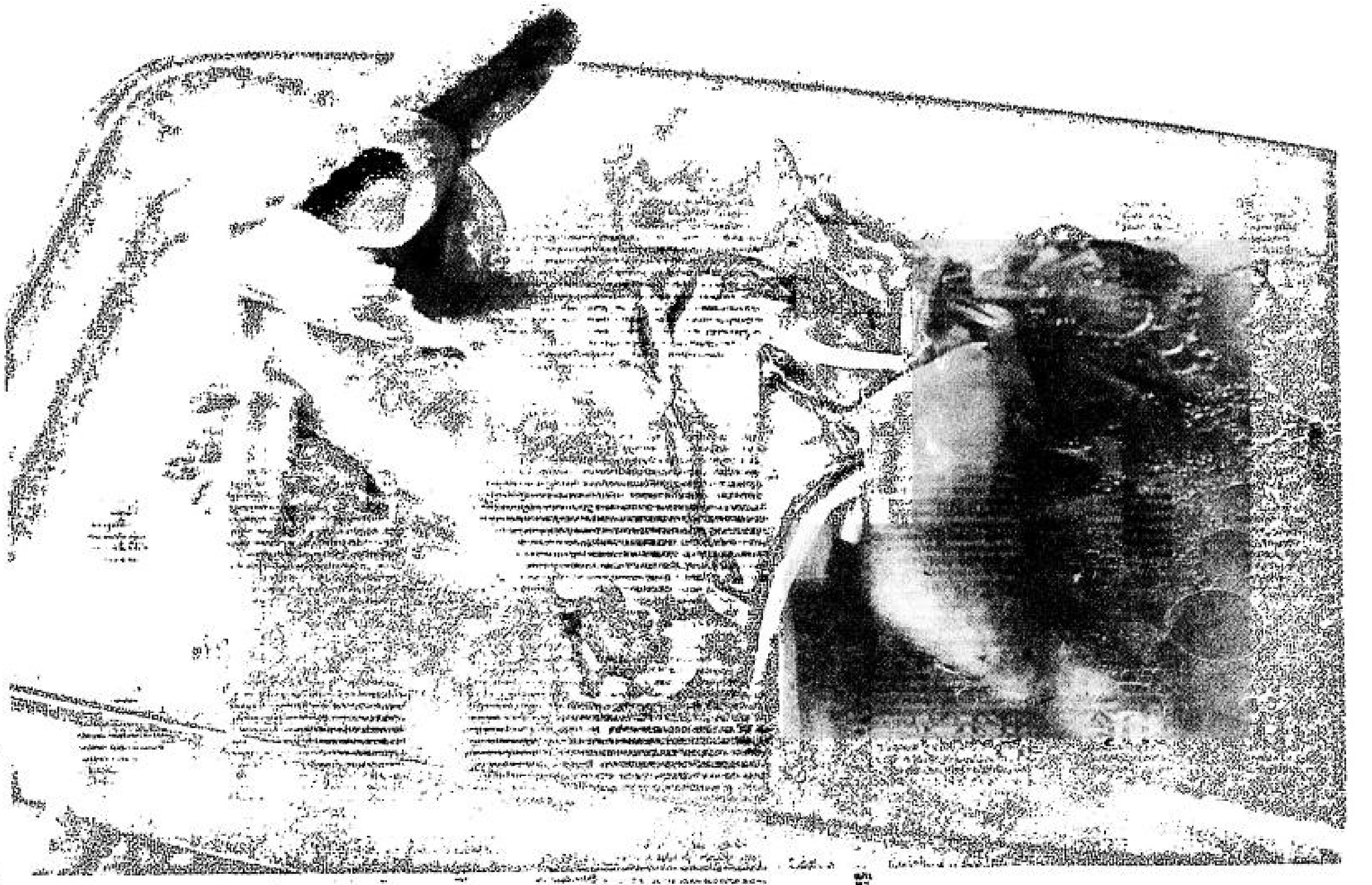
Text by Vangie Baga-Reyes
Photos by Romy Homillada

THE PROSPERITY of Lanao del Norte is reflected in its distinctive cuisine that relies almost completely on the bounty of the province's rich shore lands and lakes. There's an abundant supply of fish (*bangus, tilapia, kitong, tuna, lapu-lapu* and *tanigue*) and crustaceans that often land on every home's dinner table.

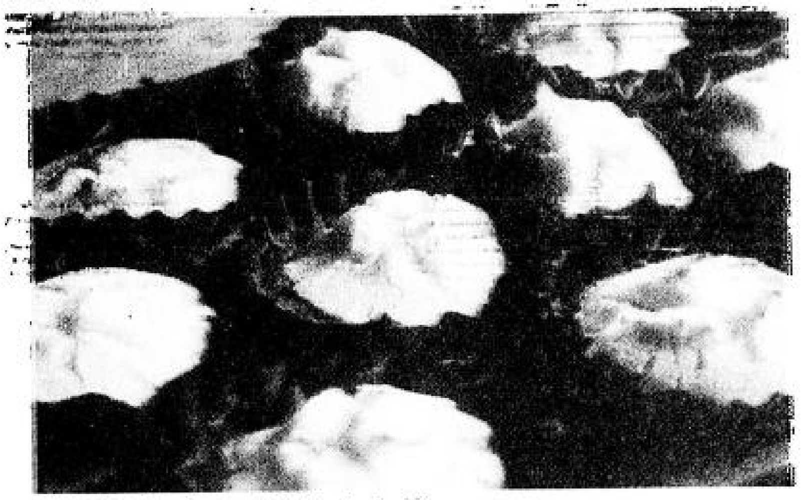
Lifestyle INQUIRER had the opportunity to experience the province's rich and well-guarded culinary delights. LDN is blessed with fresh water bounties prepared and cooked the simplest way possible—steamed, boiled or grilled.

In Barangay Baroy, fresh water shrimps or *ulang* abound, and one of its popular delicacies is *banagwa* or jumping salad. Here, the shrimps are eaten alive. Abeth Villarin, tourism officer of Baroy, says small live shrimps are collected straight from the seawater in a basin and eaten alive with a sauce on the side. The vinegar sauce is a mixture of the local vinegar, *siling labuyo*, garlic, onions, salt and pepper. The dip is exquisite. One-fourth kilo of shrimps costs only P20.

In LDN, food texture and flavors are attained not by adding powdered enhancer but by using natural ingredients and seasoning. Cooking style is simple. Take, for instance, the delicious *tinibuok na manok* or *nilagang manok* where the chicken is stuffed with *tanglad* (lemongrass) and cooked whole in a broth teeming with the flavors of onions and bell pepper.



***TINUBUOK** na manok or nilagang manok*



ALING Biling's special *bibingka* in Kauswagan

RICHEL Umel, Lanao del Norte's provincial information officer, and Abeth Villarin, Baroy tourism officer, enjoy eating *banagwa* or jumping salad

'Tinola' and 'kinilaw'

The people of LDN like sourness too, but their *tinola* (actually, *sinigang* in Manila) is fish eased to mild sourness only with tomatoes. The sour broth cools the body in hot weather. Sliced tomatoes and onions are thrown into a pot of boiling water, followed by the fish head. *Kangkong* (swamp cabbage) or *camote* tops and jalapeno peppers complete the ensemble; it is seasoned with salt.

Kinilaw or cooking in vinegar or acid is also a provincial staple. The utter freshness of the fish soaked in vinegar, ginger and salt is enough natural flavor.

In the town of Lala, *kilawin na tanigue* is prepared differently, this time with the vinegar mixed with evaporated milk and egg. Desiree Buntilao, daughter of Lala Mayor Santiago Buntilao, says *kilawin na tanigue* is often served during special occasions and fiestas.

Sweet delights

Business is brisk in the Kauswagan town of Lanao del Norte. Its rice cakes sell like, well, hot cakes.

Bibingka ni Aling Biling, owned and run by the shy and unassuming Avelina Doro, has been catering to local patrons for the past 20 years. The small *bibingka* house is conveniently located along the national highway of Kauswagan and is often the stopover of travelers, who wish to bring home bags of *bibingka* as *pasalubong*.

Aling Biling first started selling her delicacy to family and friends. Her recipe, she reluctantly reveals, uses first-class sticky rice, flour, sugar, freshly grated young coconut and coconut milk. She steams *bibingka* for a few minutes, then bakes them in moderate fire in the so-called *pugon*, which is made of cast iron.

Asked where Aling Biling got her recipe, she said: "*Himo-himo lang*, I concocted it myself."

The rice cakes, which come in saucer-like sizes, are sold sans the usual cheese, salted egg and grated coconut. They are simply wrapped in banana leaves and packed in transparent plastic. Each *bibingka* costs P2.50.

Aling Biling and her two other assistants bake the *bibingka* during the wee hours, churning *malagkit* mixture until this is perfectly cooked and blended. They make about 600 pieces a day, and the sweet products are sold out by 3 p.m.

Many locals attest that Aling Biling has consistently maintained the quality of her products through the years. Her *bibingka's* shelf life usually lasts for two to three days. Just make sure you don't put them in the refrigerator for it will become firm and solid as a rock.

E-mail the author at vbaga@inquirer.com.ph

GRILLED *kitong* or samaral in Manila

Why Lanao is wet market shopper's haven

From page F4

the moment, prices are somewhere in the middle—P220 for a kilo of good-sized female crabs and P150 for the male.

Cost is not the only thing that makes Lanao an ideal destination for the fish lover. Variety should be an even bigger attraction, with wet markets selling the freshest catch in all kinds, sizes and shapes. As in many coastal places, the day's haul can be bought from the fisherman as soon as he gets off his boat. A basin-full of shrimps, very much alive and kicking and just right for a local delicacy called "Jumping Salad," can be had for P20 if one happens to be waiting on the shore when a fisherman comes home.

While in Manila the better quality rice varieties sell for not less than P20 per kilo, in Lanao it is quite rare to see the grain—even the really good ones—selling at that price, much less higher.

Given the low prices, a more than filling meal can be enjoyed in one of the many small *carinderias* for a fraction of what it would cost to go to a Manila *turo-turo*. Perhaps Mike is onto a good thing.

***MARANG** sells from P5 to P10*

***GUSO** gatherers*

Grand Marian procession on Dec. 1

THE COFRADIA de la Immaculada Concepcion, a religious socio-civic group of laymen and women aiming to propagate devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary, will hold a grand Marian procession on Dec. 1 around Intramuros, Manila.

The program of festivities to honor the Blessed Mother will be an advance celebration of the Feast of the Immaculate Conception.

Leading the preparations for this annual event are Marietta Santos, Ma. Victoria Tengco and Jorge Allen Tengco, the *Hermano* and *Hermanas Mayores* for 2002.

The gala procession will showcase 70 different Marian images from all over the country. The historic images will be carried by flower-decked and brightly lit *carrozas* which will pass around the streets of Intramuros.

The Marian procession is an ancient tradition that originated in Intramuros nearly 400 years ago. Held annually during the Spanish times, the process vanished starting in 1945. It was revived in 1980 with the restoration of the Walled City.

SEATED from left; Bootsie Violago, Nene Leonor, Sonya Mathay, Corina Caparros, Vic Tengco, Meldy Cojuangco, Rori Eizmendi, Ofie Recto. Standing from left; Fe Rodriguez, Helen Ong, Lulu Castaneda, Ado Escudero, Allan Tengco, Marrietta Santos and Danny Dolor.

RORI Eizmendi, Vic Tengco, Oscar Violago, Bootsie Violago, Allan Tengco, Danny Dolor, Marrietta Santos, Anthony Violago, Nenuca Blardony, Clifford Chua and Boysie Villavicencio

The Intramuros Administration (IA), with Jaime Laya as action officer, which undertook the restoration, sought to revive some old religious festivals. With the cooperation of the private sector, the first procession took place in 1980.

With the formation of the Cofradia in 1981, the confraternity, in close coordination with the IA, has since then organized the annual procession, a greatly anticipated Marian event. The Cofradia's founding chair is Imelda Cojuangco while the president is Rori Eizmendi.

Part of the activities are the Triduum Novena Masses and the preparation of 500 boys and girls coming from depressed areas of Bulacan for their First Holy Communion.

The program for this year's celebration follows: Nov. 26-28-Triduum Masses, 6 p.m., Pamantasan ng Lungsod ng Maynila Chapel; Nov. 29-First Communicants' Mass, 2 p.m., Basilica Minore of the Immaculate Conception, Malolos, Bulacan; Dec. 1- preparation of carrozas, 7 a.m.-3 p.m., Fort Santiago, Intramuros; Dec. 1-Hermano and Hermanas Mayores Mass, 2:30 p.m., Manila Cathedral; Dec. 1-procession, 4:30 p.m., and Tedeum after procession, Manila Cathedral Portico.

THE Immaculate Conception image, the honoree of the Marian procession

Poised to live up to the legacy

From page F1

ning for now because women in soccer isn't exactly popular in the region, Aliah rattles off the merits of the sport: "It can promote friendship. You become a more sociable person because you have to work as a team. There are 11 players in each team. You learn discipline; you're not gonna win without it. You get to know new people. Whenever new players from Brent came in, they're all from different countries."

Her reading fare has changed. Aside from reading the entertainment pages and the Harry Potter series, Aliah bones up on current events.

Geography helps, too—if only to allay the fears of classmates and Manila-based friends who equate the region with security hazards and terrorism.

"Most of them study abroad and have no time to visit me. They were concerned, especially after the Abu Sayyaf [incidents]. They'd ask, 'Are you OK?' I had to explain to them the usual geography"—meaning that Lanao del Norte is an entirely different place from where the wars and kidnappings took place, and it's as peaceful as any city in Manila or Asia.

Travel is another fun past-time. Europe and its myriad cities and tapestries of culture are a favorite. Any would-be suitor should love taking in the sights as much as she does. Not that Aliah is particularly forthcoming about the qualities of her ideal guy: "No comment," she says tight-lipped with a barely repressed smile.

But then again, maybe one famous love story in the family—her parents', from warring prominent clans, one Muslim, the other Christian—may be enough for now. "It is a nice story," Aliah enthuses, then after a second breaks out into giggles, "I've heard different [versions]. In one, they meet in a tennis match. In another, my dad saw her swimming and fell in love with her swimming. The only similarity in all these stories is that my dad was chasing my mom, and she didn't like him at first." The laughter is unselfconscious, heartful and immediately infectious.

So much for tales of blood baths and armalite-toting goons in Lanao del Norte. Aliah Dimaporo may yet project an entirely different, refreshing portrait of Mindanao.

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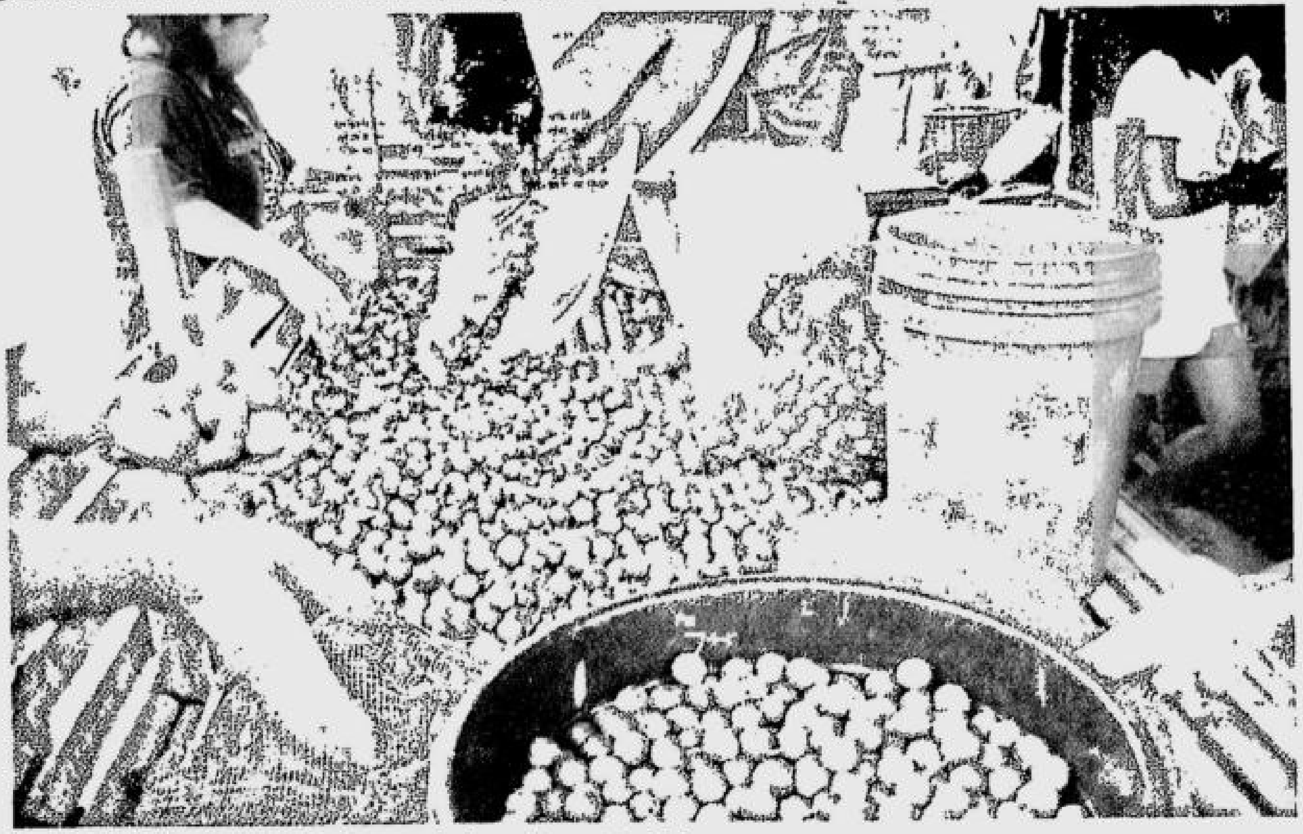
MOTHER and child sell *kalabasa* on *tiangge* day


WORKERS sort out *kalamansi* harvest before shipment to Cebu

Why Lanao is wet market shopper's haven

Bargain hunter for fresh farm produce and seafood are in for the Mindanao surprise

By Linda B. Bolido
Photos by Romy Homillada

MIKE, a driver, has been in Lanao del Norte for 30 years, and he has no plans of returning to his native Bataan.

While other people from Luzon almost shake at the mere mention of Mindanao, Mike is quite happy to be where he is even if the province was the site of one of the bloodiest encounters between government troops and members of the secessionist Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) not so long ago. Living is easy—and cheap—in Lanao, Mike says, and that's good enough reason to stay put.

Indeed, for the intrepid, who is willing to give Mindanao the benefit of the doubt, Lanao del Norte can be a bargain haven for farm produce and seafoods. With acres of *kalamansi* plantations, the country's favorite citrus currently sells in Lanao at P8 per 100 pieces, and that's still a little on the high end. In July and September, when demand is low, 100 pieces can be had for a mere P2. March is when the fruit is at a premium at P30 per 100 pieces.

A piece of *marang*, which is available the whole year round with trees growing practically everywhere, can range from P5-P10, although given the generosity of Lanao vendors, even the more expensive ones could be had at the lower price. Three pieces of fair-sized *guyabano* is sold for P10 and a passable *suha* (the local variety is white, unlike its Davao counterpart which is pink), while selling at P10 a piece, can be bought at three-for-P20. A kilo of lanzones is selling these days at P20 in *tiangges* and P25 in the markets.

Although prawns and shrimps tend to sell at pretty much the same prices as in Manila because they are primarily for export, the cost of crabs can give the much-vaunted Roxas City a run for its money. The smallest female crabs can go for P150 a kg while the male sells for P120. The largest female crabs go as high as P320 per kg and the male P180 per kg. At

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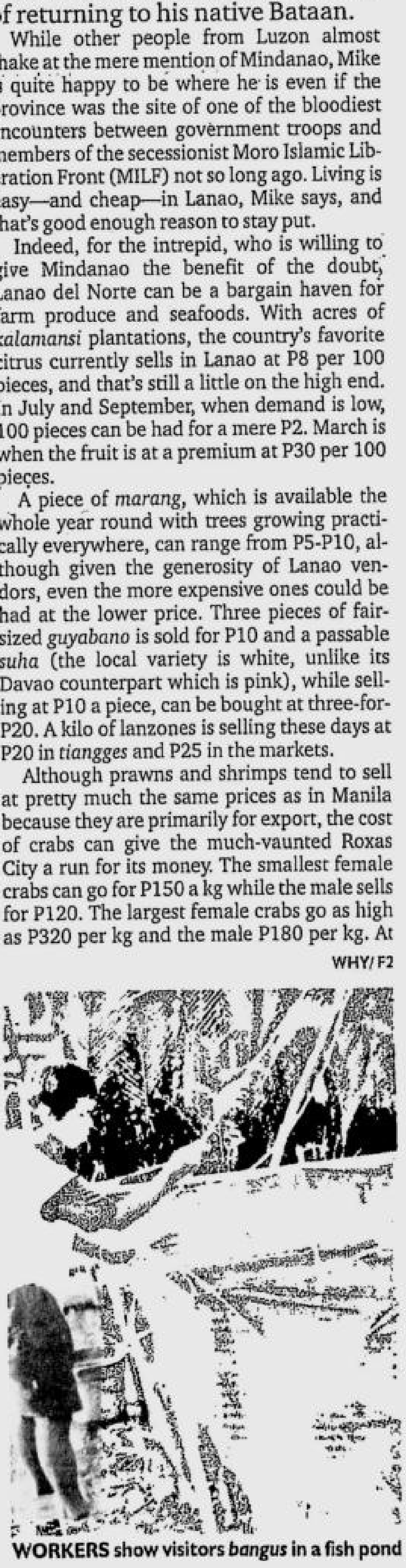
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- Male/Female at least 21-30 years old
- Graduate of Mechanical, Electrical, Chemical, Civil or Industrial Engineer
- 6 months of supervisory work experience preferably in warehousing
- Aggressive, analytical and assertive
- Knowledge in machine operation for wooden product

Sanitary Engineer

- Single, Male or Female at least 21-30 years old
- Must be Safety/Officer/Sanitary Engineer
- DOLE accreditation
- Must have at least 2 years in supervisory experienced
- Must have a Nutrition-related experienced
- Must provide a program for Occupational Health and Safety in complying with DOLE-BWC Standards

Office Staff

- Male/Female between 20-27 years old
- Graduate of Mass Com, Marketing or Computer Science
- Aggressive, analytical and assertive
- With experience in office work, people oriented
- Can work on extended hours

Research & Development Staff

- Graduate of Engineering or Architecture
- Male/Female between 20-27 years old
- With at least 6 months of experience
- Basic knowledge in AutoCAD
- Can operate windows based program

Company Nurse

- Graduate of BS Nursing
- Female between 20-27 years old
- Experience in industrial setting is an advantage
- People oriented and can work on extended hours

Truck Head Driver

(urgent hiring)

- Male at least 30 up to 40 years old
- High School or Vocational Course (related in auto mechanic)
- Experience in Driving Truck Head
- Skills in Heavy Equipment Mechanic
- With professional Driver's License (R Code - 6 & 3, 2, 1)

Forklift Operator

(urgent hiring)

- At least High School Vocational College Level
- Male be 20-27 years old
- With 6 months experience in forklift operation
- With Professional Driver's License
- Good moral character

Maintenance Staff

(urgent hiring)

- Male between 20-27 years old
- Vocational or College Graduate
- At least 1 year experience as electrician, mechanic, welder
- Can read electrical diagram symbol
- Must be familiar in manufacturing machine trouble
- Knowledge in compressor repair
- Knowledge in AVR control

PHILIPPINE ECONOMIC ZONE AUTHORITY

ROSARIO, CAVITE

You can mail or handcarry your comprehensive resumé with 2x2 picture and transcript of records at the above address. For inquiries, call telephone no. **(046) 437-2486** or **437-0849**. Look for **Christian**, **Janice**, **Rona** or you can e-mail your resumé at: **hrd_scad@pacific.net.ph**

SYKES℠

Real People. Real Solutions.

BE PART OF THE GLOBAL LEADER IN MANAGEMENT SOLUTIONS AND SERVICES.

SYKES is one of the world's leading providers of end-to-end customer care management solutions – providing CRM solutions for many of the world's leading global companies. We have a 25-year history of working with leaders primarily within the technology, communications and financial markets. We also provide robust contact center outsourcing services with emphasis on technical support and customer service. We are also known to build fast track dynamic careers.

If you are a dynamic, assertive, confident, self-motivated and customer oriented individual – Then we have the job for you! Due to our current expansion, Sykes is currently looking for intelligent TECHNICAL SUPPORT ENGINEERS and CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVES for our various Project Accounts.

75 CUSTOMER SERVICE REPS FOR A TRAVEL AGENGY (CSR-TRAVEL)

- Graduate of any 4 year course related in Tourism, International Studies, Hotel and Restaurant or any related courses
- At least 1 year experience in a travel agency, airline, hotel or any related experience
- Proficient with at least 2 reservation systems (Abacus, Amadeus, Galileo, PACERS)
- Proficient in use of e-mail with strong typing skills and knowledgeable on MS Office Applications, basic of web technology and the Internet
- Fluent in English and excellent business writing skills
- Willing to work on night schedule
- Opportunity is also open for fresh graduates of any 4 year course related in Tourism, Studies, Hotel and Restaurant Management and at least knowledgeable in 1 reservation system

CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE (CSR)

- Graduate of any college course; opportunity is open for fresh graduates
- Excellent reading comprehension skills, problem solving and data analysis skills
- Has the ability to absorb and utilize complex information
- Has initiative, an eye for detail and excellent customer service skills
- Basic knowledge of web technology, the Internet and MS Office Applications
- Fluent in English and excellent business writing skills
- Experience in a call center industry, would be an advantage

100 TECHNICAL SUPPORT ENGINEERS (TSE)

- Graduate of any college course preferably Computer Science,Computer, Engineering or any computer-related courses
- Knowledgeable in basic hardware and software troubleshooting and networking
- Familiar with the different Operating Systems (Windows, Linux, Macintosh)
- Excellent reading comprehension skills, problem solving and data analysis skills
- Has the ability to absorb and utilize complex information
- Has initiative, an eye for detail and excellent customer service skills
- Basic knowledge of web technology and the Internet
- Fluent in English and excellent business writing skills

20 CUSTOMER SERVICE REPS – FOREIGN LANGUAGES (CSR – FOREIGN LANG)

- Graduate of any college course
- Fluent in any of the following language: (a)Mandarin, (b)Japanese (c)Cantonese (d)Korean (e)Spanish (f)French (g)Italian (h)German(i)Portuguese (j)Bahasa Malay (k)Vietnamese and (l)Thai
- Strong customer service orientation and willing to work on shifting schedule
- Knowledgeable on the Internet, MS Office applications and on Macromedia products, would be an advantage

30 CUSTOMER SERVICE REPS – MORTGAGE AND FINANCE (CSR-MF)

- Graduate of Accounting, Finance or similar Business courses, a requirement
- Experience in the banking or finance industry, a requirement
- Fluent in English and excellent business writing skills
- Proficient in MS Office and the Internet
- Willing to work on shifting schedules, including graveyard shifts

As these are URGENT position vacancies, qualified applicants are requested to send their updated CV's to: SYKES ASIA, INC., 25F Robinson's Summit Building, Ayala Ave., Makati City or e-mail these to hrd@man.ph.sykes.com on, Highly competitive compensation package and Local/Regional Training await those who will be accepted. Visit http://www.sykes.com for more information about the Company.

Hot 8

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❺	Add Professional	6
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❼	Notre Dame of Greater Manila	7
❽	Alstom	7

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
JOBMarket
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2002

KPMG

Laya Mananghaya & Co.
Information Risk Management Group

KPMG Laya Mananghaya & Co. is a global professional services firm focusing on assurance, tax and management consulting. Our **Information Risk Management (IRM) Group** is in need of Certified Public Accountants (CPAs) and IT Professionals with strong background on business process analysis and information systems review (networking, information security, application and general IT controls, etc.). CPAs must have at least one-year experience in external or internal audit. Certifications like CISA, CIA, CISSP will be an advantage but not required.

INFORMATION SYSTEMS AUDITORS

We are looking for **junior** and **senior** auditors with the following skill sets:

- Strong understanding of internal control in a computerized environment
- Excellent written, oral, and presentation skills
- Highly motivated and with a strong sense of teamwork
- Adept at multi tasking responsibilities.

Qualified candidates are requested to send your resumé to ***Ms. Chona Taccad, KPMG Laya Mananghaya & Co., 22/F Philamlife Tower, 8767 Paseo de Roxas, Makati City 1226.*** Alternatively, you may e-mail these documents thru ctaccad@kpmg.com.

ONE OF THE WORLD'S LARGEST INTERNATIONAL BANKS needs . . .

CORPORATE BANKING STAFF

(Code: BP/CR-021117-MB)

- Accountancy or Economics background an advantage, not over 25 years old

JUNIOR OPERATIONS OFFICER

(Code: OP2-021117-MB)

- Experienced in import/export and remittance operations, not over 35 years old

Applicants must be business course graduates, computer literate, with excellent communication skills, able to work under minimum supervision, and with pleasing personality.

*Send resume, transcript of records and photo, code cited on the envelope and application letter, to **Box no. MK-105 c/o Classified Ads Dept., PDI, G/F Atrium of Makati, Makati City.***

JOBMarket ONLINE VISIT US AT www.jobmarketonline.com

Chateau 1771 Group of Restaurants

CHATEAU 1771
Ortigas

PORTICO 1771
Malate

SENTRO 1771
Makati

Sidebar Café
Ortigas & Malate

Now with three restaurants and two bar cafés in three different parts of the city, there will be much room for variety of experience and professional growth. We are in search of:

Restaurant Managers

We need people with warmth and who want to be of service to others.
You must have a nurturing spirit because you want to give total strangers a great meal.
The challenge is to turn a bunch of hungry people into smiling, relaxed and satisfied guests.

Interested?

Send your resumé, 2x2 photo, transcript of records, certificates of employment or clearance from previous employer to:

HR MANAGEMENT GROUP
24th Floor, IBM Plaza, Eastwood City
Libis, Quezon City

* Position available up to December 2, 2002.

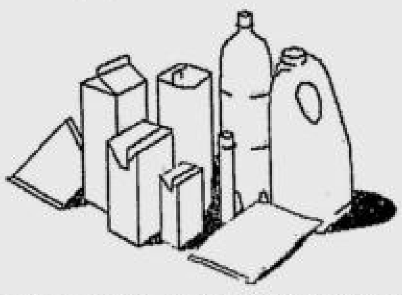
An international organization based in Tokyo with branches in the U.S. and U.K. needs qualified and competent staff to work in its planned branch office in Manila. Applicants should be proficient in English conversation and writing. Must be computer literate. Please send your resumé ASAP to:

Attention: **Emily M. Guevara**
International Internship Programs
2-22-21 Nishikata
Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo 113-8419 Japan
Fax No. +81-3-3818-4481

All resumés will be treated with utmost confidentiality. Interviews will be announced later.

SEND YOUR RESUMÉS INSTANTLY
VISIT US AT
www.jobmarketonline.com

Tetra Pak is one of the world's leading suppliers of liquid food processing and packaging systems. Together with our customers and suppliers we help provide safe foods to the consumers of the world. Operating in more than 165 markets with 20,200 employees, Tetra Pak works in strategic partnership with its suppliers and customers to provide efficient, innovative solutions and high quality, environmentally sound products to millions of people world-wide.



SALES MANAGER
(Processing Division)

We are looking for a Sales Manager responsible for the sale of processing systems to the liquid food industry in the Philippines.

The ideal candidate is a self-driven, independent, dedicated individual with a clear sense of customer support, and a team player.

The candidate must also be an Engineering graduate with minimum 5 years sales experience in Process Equipment sales. Experience from the food processing industry is an advantage.

Must be computer literate.

Likes to travel and must possess a driver's license.

Successful candidate will be offered a good compensation package, including a company car, as well an extensive training program both locally and international.

We would prefer the successful candidate to start in January, 2003.

Qualified applicants should send their application **on or before November 30, 2002**. Previous applicants need not apply.

Tetra Pak (Philippines), Inc.
7th Flr., Net One Center, 26th St. cor. Third Avenue
Fort Bonifacio, Global City
Taguig, 1634
Attn: HR/Admin Officer
Or e-mail to: Recruit.ph@tetrapak.com

Tetra Pak
More than the package

NOW HIRING

Maximize your talents of selling on the phone. Qualified applicants will be given the position of:

"Telesales Representative"

Applicants must have the following qualifications:

- Finished at least two (2) years in college
- Experience in Customer Service/Sales will be an added advantage (Fresh graduates are also encouraged to apply)
- Excellent communication skills
- Good customer service skills
- Basic computer knowledge
- Works well under pressure
- Willing to work early night shifts and weekends only

Chosen applicants will receive an attractive compensation package together with the promise of being trained to work with one of the world's leading banks.

Interested applicants may attend our Career Briefing scheduled on the following dates:

Tuesday, November 26, 2002 - 4 p.m.
Wednesday, November 27, 2002 - 4 p.m.

Please bring your latest resumé, transcript of records, and a 2x2 picture and proceed to:

17/F Citibank Square
No. 1 Eastwood Avenue, Eastwood City
Libis, Quezon City

Roche

Diagnostics

We have job openings for

Diabetes Care Manager

(Application Code DCM)

Reporting to the Country Manager of Roche Diagnostics, the successful candidate will be responsible for the sales and product management of diabetes care products of the company, as well as handle business development with medical and consumer groups. To qualify, he/she must possess a college degree in Marketing or related medical science course and with proven track record in sales and product management in the pharmaceutical/medical marketing field. Leadership, outstanding interpersonal and communication skills, computer literacy are required. He/she must be motivated, self driven, analytical, and a strategic thinker. A competitive compensation and benefits package plus a car plan are offered for this position.

IT Sales & Application Specialist

(Application Code ISAS)

The main responsibilities include effective & efficient database administration of our MOVEX program, sales and installation of biomedical instrument software including its maintenance and of other IT programs within the division. The position is responsible to the Sales Manager of the Centralized Diagnostics unit. A degree in B. S. Computer Science or related 4 year course is required. With 2-3 years experience in the areas mentioned above, including SQL programming & Crystal Reporting are needed. The chosen candidate must be proficient in Microsoft operating systems from DOS to Windows XP, MS Access.

Who to contact

Submit your resumé with recent passport size picture and contact telephone number **no later than Friday, 29 November 2002** to:

The Human Resources Department - Application Code ____
Roche (Philippines) Inc.
2252 Don Chino Roces Avenue, Makati City.

Only qualified candidates will be called for interview.

Roche

LAN/PC Specialist

Application Code: LPS

Who we are

Founded in 1896 in Basel, Switzerland, Roche has grown from a small drug laboratory into one of the world's leading research-based healthcare companies. The company is known for many innovative contributions to medicine and healthcare. We have been operating successfully in the Philippines for over 38 years.

The Position

The primary responsibilities include design, implementation and management of the company's local area networking system as well as PC hardware and software troubleshooting. He will be reporting to the Information Technology Manager

Who you are

To qualify, you must possess a college degree in Computer Science, Computer Engineering or ECE. You must have at least 2 years experience in the functions described above. Preferably a CNE. Exposure in LAN, MS Windows NT, Windows 2000, Windows XP, and MS Office are required. Knowledge in desktop & mobile computing is needed.. You must be articulate, with excellent interpersonal skills and can deal with all levels of employees. Male candidates preferred.

Who to Contact

Submit your resumé with recent passport size picture and contact telephone number no later than ***Friday, 29 November 2002*** to:

The Human Resources Department - Application Code LPS
Roche (Philippines) Inc.
2252 Don Chino Roces Avenue, 1231 Makati City

Only qualified candidates will be called for interview.

PEOPLESUPPORT

eReps™

are PeopleSupport's customer service representatives who provide online customer service via email, chat, voice-over-IP and phone on a 24x7 basis. QUALIFICATIONS: Four-year college degree. Strong customer service orientation, Excellent English communication skills, and good typing skills. Internet savvy. Willing to work shifts.

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING!

OutBouND Operations ManageR

Manage the operations of a large outbound or telemarketing team. Serve as senior operations client contact. Analyze, report and evaluate customer and client process issues. Improve and evaluate service processes and systems, and develop proactive strategies to increase service delivery. Provide the necessary leadership, guidance and support to ensure the creation of a positive and productive work atmosphere and team spirit.

QUALIFICATIONS: Bachelors degree. 3-5 years outbound operations management experience in a call center environment. Client or account management experience. Knowledgeable in telephony, data processing systems and predictive dialers. Familiar with outbound performance metrics.

Strong leadership and people management skills. Agressive and outgoing personality. Excellent motivator. Excellent English communication skills. Solid analytical, problem-solving and decision-making skills. Great interpersonal and customer service skills. Technology savvy. Willing to work graveyard shift and be on-call 24x7.

SaLes eReps™

College graduates with experience or keen interest in sales, and/or telemarketing.

We're also looking for...

technicaL eReps™

College graduates from ComputerScience/IT courses (or any related degree/background).

or

Experience in providing technical support for computer hardware and/or software. Knowledge in Unix, HTML and Macintosh is preferred. MCSE, MCSP and A+ Certification is a plus.

traVeL eReps™

2+ years' experience in airline reservations (preferably international), or hotel/car rental reservations.

or

Tourism/HRM graduate, with experience in the hospitality industry, preferably in reservations.

We offer a dynamic work environment, casual dress code, professional development and training, and a competitive compensation and benefits package.

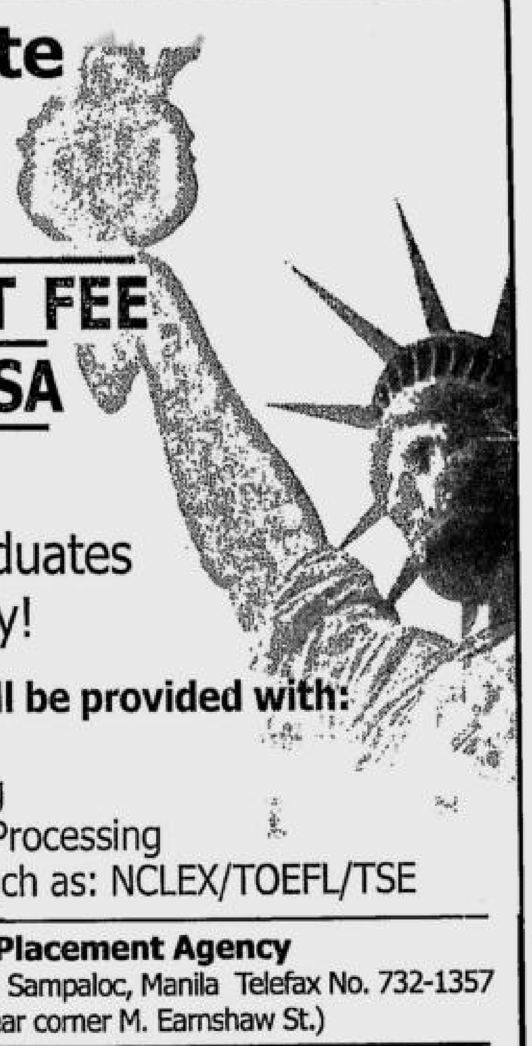
PeopleSupport provides online customer service via email, chat, voice-over-IP, and phone. Our global network is composed of corporate headquarters in Los Angeles, US operations center in St. Louis, Missouri, and of course, the Asia Pacific Headquarters in Manila, Philippines.

SEND YOUR RESUMES TO

applicants@peoplesupport.com

12-TH-14TH FLOOR PHILAMLIFE TOWER, PASEO DE ROXAS, MAKATI

NURSES, PHYSICAL THERAPISTS RADIOLOGY TECHNICIANS



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IMMIGRANT VISA

CGFNS/Non-CGFNS
Pre-Board/Fresh Graduates
are Welcome to Apply!

Successful applicants will be provided with:

- Air Fare
- FREE Board and Lodging
- FREE Legal Immigration Processing
- Assistance with exams such as: NCLEX/TOEFL/TSE

Apply at Finest Placement Agency
2nd Floor Rm. 201 1425 J. Fajardo St. Sampaloc, Manila Telefax No. 732-1357
(Formerly Lealtad St. near corner M. Earnshaw St.)

fpa Finest Placement Agency
POEA No. 297-LB-06182-NL

is an affiliate of

fhc Finest Health Care
Chicago, Illinois, USA

WANTED FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

By a Dutch multinational company in the poultry processing and convenience food industry with its regional headquarter for sales and service in the Philippines.

CUSTOMER TECHNICAL SERVICE COORDINATOR

- Engineering graduate with good administration knowledge and general technical background
- Minimum five (5) years experience in technical related administration
- Ability to work independently and with a pleasant personality
- Ability to communicate well with different levels in an organization (fluent in both oral and written English language)
- Flexible and computer literate with experience in Word, Excel and Lotus Notes.

We offer a very competitive compensation, benefits package and an exciting career.

Qualified candidates may send their comprehensive resume with 2x2 ID picture, e-mail address and contact telephone numbers to:

Dutch Multinational
P.O. Box 2510
MCPO, Makati City

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spi technologies inc.

solutions for a changing world

SPI Technologies is an industry leader in providing diversified value-added information technology (IT) services to clients all over the world.

Our VISION is to be the premier business partner for providing outsourced information technology services and solutions to the global market.

We are PLEASED to invite qualified people to explore career opportunities with us as we continue to grow and fulfill our commitment to the creation of delighted customers in the global outsourced IT service industry.

Shift Supervisors

The successful candidates will be responsible for supervising and coordinating the work activities of the shift personnel according to the company's productivity and accuracy standards.

- College degree holders of any 4 or 5 year course
- Must have at least 3 years supervisory work experience in a manufacturing firm
- Must possess good interpersonal skills
- Preferably with knowledge in basic computer operations

Programmers

The successful candidates will be responsible in producing programs from client specifications.

- College degree holders of any I.T. related field
- Has adequate experience in using Clipper or any DOS Xbase language
- Has background on n-tier development using Visual Basic, SQL and Windows NT
- Knowledge in web-based development is a definite advantage
- Willing to work in any shift

Project Liaisons

The successful candidates will be responsible for leading the project team and for integrating functional/operational resources towards the achievement of project goals.

- College degree holders of Management, Engineering, Mathematics, Economics, Statistics, Computer Science or any related course
- Must possess good oral and written English communication skills
- With at least one year supervisory work experience in production industry
- Excellent organizational and interpersonal skills
- Knowledge in programming is an advantage

Interested applicants are requested to send or e-mail their résumé with recent photo, and photocopy of transcript of records to:

SPI - RECRUITMENT OFFICE
2nd floor Skyfreight Bldg. C NAIA Road
corner PASCOR Drive, Parañaque City 1700
E-mail: j.labis@spitech.com
WWW: http://www.spitech.com

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ambergris

WANTED: TEAM PLAYERS

Join the fastest growing industry in the Philippines today. Ambergris Solutions is a premiere customer contact center located in the Ortigas area.

We are building dream teams that will assist us in attaining exceptional customer service of world-class standards.

We require the following mandatory qualifications from all applicants:

- ✓ excellent command of the English language (written/oral)
- ✓ college graduate
- ✓ customer service preferred
- ✓ willing to work night shifts

Current positions available:

- Customer Interaction Associate
- Team Captain
- Trainer
- Quality Monitoring Analyst
- Sr./Jr. Technical Consultant
- Marketing Analyst
- Call Center Coordinator

Bring your resumé with picture to:

Ambergris Solutions
31/F Discovery Centre,
25 ADB Avenue
Ortigas Center, Pasig City

On November 25-29, 2002,
Monday - Friday
bet. 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

MMC

MAKATI MEDICAL CENTER

#2 Amorsolo Street, Makati City

OPPORTUNITY!!! Knocks just once...
The most awarded Hospital in the country needs YOU!!

Interested applicants may submit **resumé, transcript of records, and 2 pcs. 2x2 pictures at the Industrial Relations Department.**

Monday - Friday, 8 am - 11 am. Business attire is required.

Fresh graduates are welcome to apply. Previous applicants need not apply

KIDNEY UNIT NURSE MANAGER

- ✓ With at least 9 units of MAN
- ✓ With 5 years Hemodialysis experience
- ✓ With at least 1 year experience of managing a hemodialysis unit

LICENSED STAFF NURSES

- ✓ Graduate of BS Nursing
- ✓ Preferably with IV Therapy Training

RESPIRATORY THERAPIST

- ✓ Graduate of BS Respiratory Therapy
- ✓ Preferably with experience

LICENSED PHARMACISTS

- ✓ Graduate of BS Pharmacy
- ✓ With at least 80% board rating

URGENT REQUIREMENTS

Beauty Consultant

Experience a whole new, fun job at a high-end retail store specializing in hair care products and treatments

Requirements:

- Attractive female, preferably 22-35 years old
- At least 2 years in college, paramedical courses an advantage
- Experience in retail sales highly favored
- Willing to be trained
- Proficient in oral English
- Pleasant, dynamic and talkative
- Hardworking and trustworthy

Please send your bio-data with recent photo and contact number to Lisse et Cie, Inc. 6239-E, Mañalac Street, Barangay Poblacion, Makati City.

A GROWING MEAT PROCESSING COMPANY IS IN NEED OF THE FOLLOWING:

3 - Quality Assurance Personnel
1 - Product Research & Development Personnel

Qualifications:

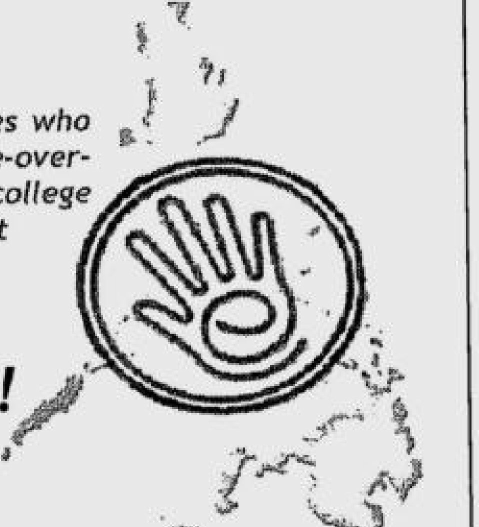
B.S. Food Technology graduate with at least 3 years experience in Quality Assurance and R&D works.

Interested parties may apply personally at

Unit 1-A Vicencio Condo
284 Sto. Rosario Street
Brgy. Plainview, Mandaluyong City
Tels. 531-1343; 531-1206
From 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM, Mon / Tues / Wed

Please bring RESUMÉ

PEOPLESUPPORT



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or

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traVeL eReps™

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Tourism/HRM graduate, with experience in the hospitality industry, preferably in reservations.

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SEND YOUR RESUMES TO

applicants@peoplesupport.com

12-TH-14TH FLOOR PHILAMLIFE TOWER, PASEO DE ROXAS, MAKATI

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spi technologies inc.

solutions for a changing world

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- Preferably with knowledge in basic computer operations

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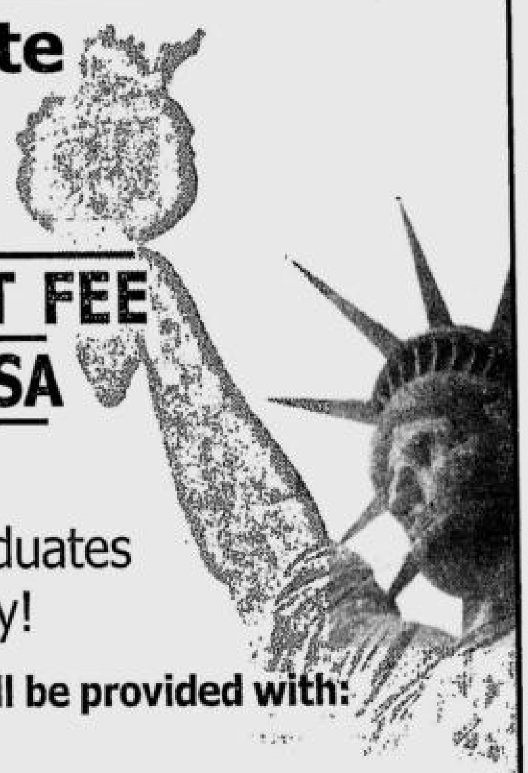
SPI - RECRUITMENT OFFICE
2nd floor Skyfreight Bldg. C NAIA Road
corner PASCOR Drive, Parañaque City 1700
E-mail: j.labis@spitech.com
WWW: http://www.spitech.com

NURSES, PHYSICAL THERAPISTS RADIOLOGY TECHNICIANS



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CGFNS/Non-CGFNS
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fpa Finest Placement Agency
POEA No. 297-LB-06182-NL

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Chicago, Illinois, USA

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- Engineering graduate with good administration knowledge and general technical background
- Minimum five (5) years experience in technical related administration
- Ability to work independently and with a pleasant personality
- Ability to communicate well with different levels in an organization (fluent in both oral and written English language)
- Flexible and computer literate with experience in Word, Excel and Lotus Notes.

We offer a very competitive compensation, benefits package and an exciting career.

Qualified candidates may send their comprehensive resume with 2x2 ID picture, e-mail address and contact telephone numbers to:

Dutch Muitinational
P.O. Box 2510
MCPO, Makati City

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Join the fastest growing industry in the Philippines today. Ambergris Solutions is a premiere customer contact center located in the Ortigas area.

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- ✓ willing to work night shifts

Current positions available:

- Customer Interaction Associate
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- Trainer
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- Sr./Jr. Technical Consultant
- Marketing Analyst
- Call Center Coordinator

Bring your resumé with picture to:

Ambergris Solutions
31/F Discovery Centre,
25 ADB Avenue
Ortigas Center, Pasig City

On November 25-29, 2002,
Monday - Friday
bet. 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

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OPPORTUNITY!!! Knocks just once...
The most awarded Hospital in the country needs YOU!!

Interested applicants may submit resumé, transcript of records, and 2 pcs. 2x2 pictures at the Industrial Relations Department.

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Fresh graduates are welcome to apply. Previous applicants need not apply

KIDNEY UNIT NURSE MANAGER

- ✓ With at least 9 units of MAN
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- ✓ Preferably with IV Therapy Training

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- ✓ Graduate of BS Respiratory Therapy
- ✓ Preferably with experience

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- ✓ With at least 80% board rating

URGENT REQUIREMENTS

Beauty Consultant

Experience a whole new, fun job at a high-end retail store specializing in hair care products and treatments

Requirements:

- Attractive female, preferably 22-35 years old
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Please send your bio-data with recent photo and contact number to Lisse et Cie, Inc. 6239-E, Mañalac Street, Barangay Poblacion, Makati City.

A GROWING MEAT PROCESSING COMPANY IS IN NEED OF THE FOLLOWING:

3 - Quality Assurance Personnel
1 - Product Research & Development Personnel

Qualifications:

B.S. Food Technology graduate with at least 3 years experience in Quality Assurance and R&D works.

Interested parties may apply personally at

Unit 1-A Vicencio Condo
284 Sto. Rosario Street
Brgy. Plainview, Mandaluyong City
Tels. 531-1343; 531-1206
From 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM, Mon / Tues / Wed

Please bring RESUMÉ

WORKING OOPS!

'X files' sent to boss

By Eowyn

THE GUYS in our office often send each other x-rated movies and pictures through email. One guy carelessly selected all entries in his address book to forward the usual fare of pornographic material to his friends. Unfortunately, the address book also contained the email address of our chief operating officer who happens to be a female. When the others noticed this and brought it to his attention, the very nervous guy walked into the executive's office the next working day to apologize. Lucky for him, the COO was so busy she did not have time to open her email that day. But the guys never let him forget his near-fatal blunder.

Bitten by the luv bug!

By Eowyn

WE USED to have an officemate who was not very popular among the rank and file and even some of the senior personnel. She often forwards email of virus warnings to all employees even if she is not from MIS. This "virus authority" even berated one person who accidentally opened an email containing a worm from a client.

One Monday morning, we saw her pacing the reception area, nervously smiling at everyone. We discovered the reason later. All the computers in the office had to be shut down while the MIS determined the extent of the damage of a virus unleashed by one employee. The erring employee was the so-called "virus authority" who opened a file containing the Love Virus.

'Cut off his head'

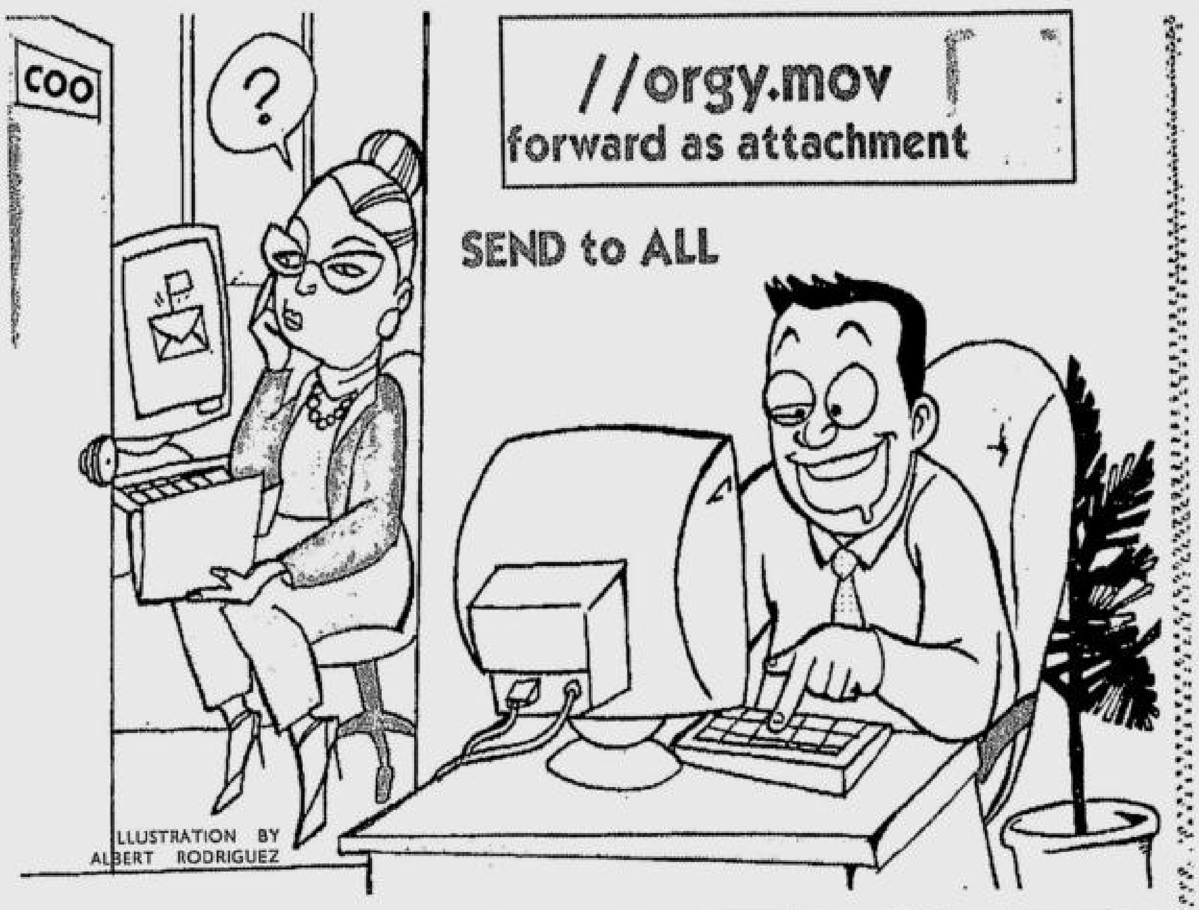
By Howie

WHEN heads rolled in our office as part of our retrenchment program, this senior photographer was included in the layoff. It seems the company president had been irritated several times by this photographer's work. Every time he takes a group picture that includes the president, the head of the president always gets chopped off in the picture. So, like the queen in Alice in Wonderland, the president ordered in retaliation, "Cut off his head!"

Unforgettable secretary

By Mina

A COMPANY president of a big corporation will never forget this secretary. Two decades ago, when the secretary was first hired, she committed a blunder that is considered legendary in company history. In a big conference, the president was about to take his place at the presidential table. Eager to earn brownie points, the secretary pulled out his chair–just as the president was about to sit down. He fell flat on his butt in front of hundreds of important guests. Fortunately for the secretary, the president let her stay in the company where she has recounted this story with glee to new hires ever since.



LLUSTRATION BY ALBERT RODRIGUEZ

Notice where your feet are taking you

By Kate Wendleton

TODAY, the name of the game is continual career management–taking small, ongoing steps in the right direction.

Five O'Clock Clubber Carroll Cavanagh's feet were taking him in a certain direction, but he didn't notice it at the time. Often, it is only in retrospect that we can make sense of our past and use that information to guide us.

While working as general counsel and secretary to the board of the National Gallery of Art, Carroll spent his free time with the curators–getting the inside information on what was happening in the art world–a "joyful habit." When he was later confronted with a gaping hole in his future–and no longer wanted to practice law–Carroll hoped for some clear direction: a "blinding transcendent vision." None came. Slowly, he realized that he could combine his knowledge of art with his business skills.

Changing direction–even when you know where you're going–is a long process. Life takes time. Just about everything we try to do well–in both our personal and professional lives–takes more time than we had expected.

The good news is that we all have the time. The Forty-Year Vision was developed to give you the perspective you need to dream big dreams. You do have the time to implement them. And 20 years from now, you will still be 20 years older–whether you decide to develop a plan and follow it or not. So why not get started?

First, notice where your feet are taking you. What do you enjoy most and do best? The exercises in the Targeting book (Seven Stories, Interests, etc.) are key.

Then develop your vision: your Forty-Year Vision–even if you change it later. Write out your best-case scenario–five or 10 years at a time. You must write it so you will take yourself seriously–or nothing will happen. Rethink what you want, and go for it. Day in and day out, gloriously live the life you planned and ride the shock waves you will meet. It's never easy, and it does take time. But what else are you doing the next 20 years?

(Reprinted with permission from www.fiveoclockclub.com)

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At the very least, you must get excited over food. A college degree in HRA/HRM would indicate this, which is why it is preferred. But any college degree in a serious field of endeavor will be considered. We will support and affirm creative people who have the zest for learning and a knack for expressing themselves with food. We want people who have a passion for life, excellence and a love affair with food.

Interested?
Send your resumé, 2x2 photo, transcript of records, certificates of employment or clearance from previous employer to:

HR MANAGEMENT GROUP
24th Floor, IBM Plaza, Eastwood City
Libis, Quezon City

* Positions available up to December 2, 2002.
* Anticipated March graduates are welcome to apply

Big Berta Foods Inc. is a newly established food importation firm that is looking for:

Institutional Snack Food Sales Manager, Merchandise Officer and Secretary/Bookkeeper

Qualifications

☐ College graduate, between 25-35 years of age
☐ Proven track record in selling various snacks, cookies, biscuits and other food items
☐ 3-5 years of account management and sales experience specifically covering hotels, restaurants, canteens, movie theaters, specialty stores and food outlets
☐ Maintains extensive contacts within and knowledge of the institutional food/snack market
☐ Skilled in the use of Microsoft Office applications
☐ Maintains initiative, has strong attention to detail and works well under pressure
☐ Gets along well with all types of people
☐ Conversant in both English and Tagalog
☐ Willing to travel is necessary

Your 2-page resumé should show the above qualifications for you to be accepted for an interview.

Call us first for interview at 02-8884251 from 8:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

By appointment only.

HARIBON
FOUNDATION

Haribon Foundation is a non-stock, non-profit and membership organization committed to nature conservation through community empowerment and scientific excellence. Organized in 1972 as a bird watching society. Haribon is known to be the pioneer environmental organization in the Philippines.

We invite dedicated professionals to join our growing family to occupy the following positions:

SENIOR RESEARCHER

- Master of Science in Biology preferably major in Marine Biology or its equivalent experience.
- Certified open water SCUBA diver
- Equipped with above average oral and written communication skills
- Computer literate
- Must be willing to work with small-scale fishers and rural communities
- At least three (3) years of relevant work experience particularly on coral reef monitoring

JUNIOR RESEARCHER

- Bachelor of Science in Biology preferably major in Marine Biology or its equivalent experience
- Certified open water SCUBA diver
- Equipped with above average oral and written communication skills
- Computer literate
- Must be willing to work with small-scale fishers and rural communities
- At least (1) year of relevant work experience particularly coral reef monitoring

Due to urgency of requirements, qualified applicants may send their Curriculum Vitaé through mail or e-mail to the head office on or before **30 November 2002.**
Only short-listed candidates will be notifed for an interview.

Human Resource Department (HRD)
Attention: The HR Officer
HARIBON Foundation for the Conservation of Natural Resources, Inc.
4th Flr., Fil Garcia Tower, 140 Kalayaan Avenue corner Mayaman Street
Teacher's Village, Quezon City 1101
E-mail address: rv_inovero@yahoo.com
For inquiries call: 436-4363 / 433-3476

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Requirement:
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Engineering Qualifications:
- Graduate in Mechanical / Electrical / Civil Engineering

Mail resumé with passport size picture, photocopy of passport, if available, certificate of employment/training to:

Box Code: 200
c/o Philippine Daily Inquirer
Classified Ads, 5th Flr. Bldg. B
SM Megamall, Edsa, Mandaluyong City

For more details please call
Mr. John B. Collado at Tel. # 0920-426-5023

Rustan's

urgently needs...

FINANCIAL SUPERVISOR

- Between 21-35 yrs. old
- Accounting graduate, computer literate
- Must be results-oriented and highly analytical
- Preferably with related work experience
- Willing to work beyond regular work hours

DIRECT MAIL / AD and PROMO COORDINATOR

- Male or female, between 21-25 yrs. old
- Graduate of any (4) four-year business course
- With one or two years experience in marketing
- With good background in computer programming
- Specializes in events

RUSTAN'S HEAD OFFICE
Human Resources & Organization
Development Division
G/F, El Mercasol Building, EDSA, Mandaluyong City
(Only qualified applicants will be scheduled for an interview)

A leading multinational transport company is **URGENTLY** in need of a dynamic, assertive and mature professional to occupy the position of:

MARKETING MANAGER

- holder of a business degree preferably from a reputable university
- must have at least 3 to 4 years experience in the same capacity preferably in a related industry
- possesses leadership qualities

An attractive compensation package **plus a brand new car** awaits the successful candidate.

Qualified candidates are requested to submit their comprehensive resumé with photo, telephone number/s and other credentials not later than **November 29, 2002** at:

P.O. Box 7748
Domestic Airport Post Office
Metro Manila, Philippines

ZURICH

Zurich Life Insurance Philippines, Inc. is in need of the following:

Actuarial Analyst

- graduate of BS Mathematics, Statistics, Actuarial Science or related field
- 2-3 years focused actuarial experience in a life insurance or pre-need company
- previous exposure to financial reporting, group insurance, reinsurance and experience studies preferred
- knowledge of actuarial software and fluency in visual basic an advantage
- proven ability to pass actuarial exams (Society of Actuaries) or ASP
- recent graduates with superior academic records and actuarial exams passed are also encouraged to apply

Life Underwriting Manager

- college graduate, preferably with medical background
- with at least 3 years experience in life/health underwriting and administration gained from a life insurance company, preferably in a managerial capacity
- with excellent interpersonal and communication skills
- must have the ability to manage and supervise people
- must be able to initiate action and decision
- knowledge in MS Office

If you have the above qualifications, please e-mail your resumé to **zuriphil@zurich.com** or you may send it to:

Zurich Life Insurance Philippines, Inc.
Zurich General Insurance Philippines, Inc.
28/F Petron MegaPlaza Building
358 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City

Zurich Philippines is one of the leading providers of life and non-life insurance and is a member of the Zurich Financial Services Group (ZFSG) based in Switzerland.

MMPI

MEGA MAGAZINES & PUBLICATIONS, INC.

A professionally rewarding career in a high-growth work environment awaits those who qualify for these positions in the country's premiere fashion magazine.

Advertising Sales Managers

- ✓ preferably graduate of Marketing or Mass Communication
- ✓ with at least 2 years experience in Advertising Sales
- ✓ has supervised at least 2 to 3 Acct. Execs.

Account Executives

- ✓ not more than 35 years old
- ✓ graduate of Marketing or MassComm.
- ✓ at least 1-2 years experience in Sales
- ✓ outstanding interpersonal, oral comm., and presentation skills

Photographers

- ✓ has taken up formal photography classes
- ✓ experience in studio photography, an advantage
- ✓ willing to travel and can assume flexible work schedule
- ✓ will take pictures of models, artifacts, and structures

Brand Managers

- ✓ graduate of Marketing Management or equivalent in work experience
- ✓ adept in conceptualizing and overseeing marketing activities
- ✓ preferably, has experience in an advertising agency

Marketing Officers

- ✓ graduate of Marketing or Mass Communication
- ✓ at least 2 years experience in developing and executing marketing studies and marketing plans

Graphic Designers

- ✓ preferably graduate of Fine Arts major in Advertising
- ✓ 2-3 years experience in print design
- ✓ proficient in PhotoShop, QuarkExpress or Freehand

Applicants may apply personally or send a resumé, transcript of records and a 2x2 picture to:

The Human Resources Manager
Mega Magazines and Publications, Inc.
18th Floor, Strata 100 Building, Emerald Avenue, Ortigas Center, Pasig City
or at P.O. Box 12762 Ortigas Center
E-mail: paul@ivegotstyle.net

Rustan's

IS IN IMMEDIATE NEED OF TOP CALIBER INDIVIDUALS

CORPORATE PLANNING MANAGER

- ➢ Graduate of a four-year business related course, preferably an MBA degree holder
- ➢ With an extensive and meritorious professional experience in Corporate Planning, Marketing and retail
- ➢ Must have an excellent communication skills
- ➢ Must have a high level of computer literacy

CORPORATE PLANNING ANALYST

- ➢ Between 24-35 years old
- ➢ Graduate of Industrial Engineering, Business, Economics or Finance course
- ➢ Preferably with experience in corporate planning and financial analysis
- ➢ Must have strong analytical and interpersonal skills
- ➢ Must have excellent communication skills
- ➢ Must be computer literate

MERCHANDISE MANAGERS

- ➢ At least 25 years old
- ➢ Graduate of a 4-year business related course, preferably with an MBA or Fashion Merchandising degree
- ➢ With at least two (2) years work experience in the retail business in the same capacity
- ➢ Must have excellent oral and written communication skills
- ➢ Must be analytical, results-oriented, artistic, creative and with good fashion sense
- ➢ Must possess a pleasing and dynamic personality
- ➢ Must be computer literate

MERCHANDISE PLANNING & CONTROL MANAGER

- ➢ Female, between 26-35 years old
- ➢ Graduate of Industrial Engineering, Management, Economics or any related course
- ➢ Preferably with two (2) years work exposure in the retail business
- ➢ Analytical and must have excellent communication skills
- ➢ Possess a dynamic personality, impeccable integrity and good moral character
- ➢ Highly motivated and results-oriented
- ➢ Must be computer literate, knowledge on database software is an advantage

RUSTAN'S HEAD OFFICE
Human Resources & Organization Development Division
G/F, El Mercasol Building, EDSA, Mandaluyong City

(Only qualified applicants will be scheduled for an interview)

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER JOBMarket ONLINE
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HOME 95.1 RADIO
Naga

URGENTLY NEEDS THE FOLLOWING PERSONNEL:

Station Manager

Male/Female, not more than 40 years old, knowledgeable in Sales and Broadcast, experience is a must.

Production Staff/DJ

Male, not more than 30 years old, at least 1 year related experience including news writing.

Finance & Admin Officer

Female, not more than 30 years old, Acctg. graduate with at least 1 year related experience.

Technicians

Male, not more than 35 years old, 1st Class GRCO (licensed), 1 year related experience

Account Executives

Male/Female, not over 40 years old. Experience in the broadcast industry is an advantage.

Local residents are preferred.
For Production Staff please include voice tape.

All applicants may send their resumé with recent 2x2 picture and Transcript of Records to:

ALIW BROADCASTING CORPORATION
Human Resource Management
5th Floor Citystate Centre
709 Shaw Boulevard, Brgy. Oranbo, Pasig City
Tel.# 637-3965 Fax# 6339162 /633-9158
E-mail: taongyaman@edsamail.com.ph

or to :

Mr. Rey Claros
Eternal Plans
Peñafrancia Memorial Park Corp.
Unit G-6, Ground Floor DMG Building
Peñafrancia Avenue, Naga City

ADB

Fighting Poverty in Asia & the Pacific

Asian Development Bank's overarching goal is to reduce poverty and improve the quality of life of people in the Asian & Pacific region.

Associate Internet Systems Analyst

Reporting Arrangements:
The position reports to the Information Systems and Technology Specialist, Office of Information Systems and Technology (OIST).

Description of Responsibilities:

The position will design, implement, and maintain reliable systems and software supporting ADB's Internet, intranet and extranet web-based application strategy and shared technology services. Specific responsibilities include:

- Administering and managing Internet-based technical solutions supporting information systems development and share technology services; reporting regularly on progress, identifying resource requirements and challenges encountered;
- Coordinating and assisting in the resolution of technical challenges facing information systems development and shared technology efforts;
- Documenting the Internet, intranet and extranet architectures, procedures, process flows and points of contact to support information systems development and shared technology efforts and transferring working knowledge of the environment to other team members and staff;
- Assisting in proposal, evaluation and selection of new technical solutions used to support information systems development and shared technology efforts;
- Coordinating the delivery of Internet-based technical solutions supporting information systems development and shared technology efforts; and
- Assisting in the development and continual improvement of inter-group communications within the OIST.

Selection Criteria:

- Suitability to undertake the responsibilities mentioned above at the required level;
- A College degree in Management Information Systems, Computer Science, Mathematics, Engineering or related areas;
- Minimum of 5 years work experience, with at least 2 years experience in network security devices including 1 year of multi-vendor experience with Firewalls (Cisco, Netscreen, Firewall-1, ipchains, ipfw), Intrusion Detection Systems (ISS, EcoScope, ITA) and forward and reverse Proxy Servers (Netscape, Squid, Apache); at least 2 years experience with numerous operating environments, including Unix (Solaris, Linux, BSD, AIX, HP-UX), Microsoft Windows (9x. 2000. XP), and Novell (4, 5, 6), knowledge of Mainframe environment an advantage; at least 1 year experience in designing, implementing and supporting moderately complex Internet architectures preferably with Apache, iPlanet or Netscape Enterprise server; experience with systems and network security, including knowledge of standards, policies and technologies;
- Working knowledge of TCP/IP networking including understanding of routing, VLANs and VPNs; knowledge of Cisco routers and switches an advantage;
- Good understanding of a broad range of technical architectures, system development methodologies and system integration strategies; and
- Written and oral communication skills in English.

Established in 1966 and headquartered in Manila, Philippines, ADB's multicultural staff come from about 50 member countries. ADB's Headquarters in Manila generally recruits its support staff locally from the Philippines. The position is for a three-year fixed-term appointment. ADB offers a highly competitive salary and benefits package applicable to local staff. While the position advertised is for ADB Headquarters in Manila, Philippines, ADB staff must be prepared to serve in any location outside the Headquarters at the discretion of Management. For further information, visit http://www.adb.org.

*Apply online at http://www.adb.org/Employment/appform.asp or send application, quoting **Ref. No. EXT-SS02-024(3)-OIST**, by **6 December 2002** to:*

Tel: (63-2) 632-4444 HUMAN RESOURCES DIVISION
Fax: (63-2) 636-2550 ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK
E-mail: ss-jobs@adb.org P.O. BOX 789, 0980 MANILA, PHILIPPINES

Only shortlisted candidates will be notified.

COME AND JOIN US!!!
As we elevate your career to the top!
We have vacancies for:

ASSISTANT HRD MANAGER

He shall be in charge of training and employee development for all levels in the organization in the areas of attitudinal, productivity and skills enhancement. The candidiate must be knowledgeable of the labor code and can handle labor relations, CBA contracts, grievances and understands the value of core competencies. He shall assist in establishing recruitment, development and succession plans, developing compensation strategies, performance management and policy formulation.

The ideal applicant must have worked in a similar capacity for at least five (5) years from a medium-to-large scale business entity, with hands-on capability in MS Office and preferably with a master's degree in behavioral science.

ASSISTANT ACCOUNTING MANAGER

The candidate shall assist the Senior Manager for Administration and Accounting in the supervision and control over the accounting requirements of the company. He/she is expected to systematize accounting functions and procedures. He/she must have extensive experience in the areas of payroll and payable, credit and collection, cost accounting, general accounting and financial accounting in a computerized environment.

The ideal applicant must have worked in a similar capacity for at least three (3) years from a medium-to-large scale business entity, with hands-on capability in MS Office and preferably a Certified Public Accountant.

Qualified candidates for the above positions can expect a competitive compensation package. Interested parties should apply with credentials and photo personally or by mail post-marked not later than November 29, 2002 to:

International Elevator & Equipment, Inc.
Km. 23 West Service Road, South Super Highway Cupang, Muntinlupa City
(Between Sucat and Alubung Interchanges, near Alabang Hills Village)
Tel. # s 8423161 to 64 Fax # s 8093706/8093756

Best 'investments' are invisible to the eye

By Bing Fuentes

POSTCARDS *from the* CORPORATE EDGE

WITH the unstable economy and Christmas coming too soon for comfort, everyone's economizing and sticking to their budgets these days. But even as we hold on to our hard-earned cash, there are some things still worth spending on in this unpredictable world based on how much we–and our loved ones–will benefit in the future.

My friends shared with me what they consider to be their best 'investments' and its unexpected returns.

Loving relationship

Ruth Sacro is a 34-year old housewife who admits she needs "a lot of divine inspiration these days" as she struggles like many others to find a job. When she was still working, Ruth liked spending her salary on her loved ones because "you only live once." But her best investments were the time, money and effort she and her fiancé spent on their relationship and how it strengthened the bond between them.

"It took Peter and I six years to save up for our marriage," Ruth recalls. "When the big day came, it represented all the sacrifices we made including the years I waited for him. That's why, up to now, I still have all the deposit slips and everything related to our wedding like my wedding gown, shoes, the pillows, etc."

Following Peter in Singapore afterwards was also a priceless investment, she continues, because "it became our second honeymoon. Even if we failed to make a baby and I didn't land a job there, I will always treasure our time together. It was my first trip abroad and I was very impressed by the beautiful places and the people, especially the Singaporean kids, their educational system and the government. Peter also bought me a videocam for my birthday."

Insurance plan

Ime Nevares, a 35-year old administrative assistant, confessed she was literally "hypnotized" by a very convincing Sunlife agent back in 1995. Suddenly, she was signing a P300,000 insurance plan and committing to shell out P1,997 every quarter for 7 years.

"But I have no regrets because I benefited from it many times already," Ime says. "In 1999, after only four years, I was able to borrow P8,000 when I badly needed it. Because policyholders are also entitled to Sunlife shares like stockholders, I got 90 shares based on my insurance's face value. Based on my experience in corporate finance, I converted it to stock certificates instead of cash. I waited for the value to go up from the initial offering of P345/share to P600, sold 40 shares and kept 50. This year, I was again able to borrow P15,000."

But for Ime, her better investment is knowing and loving Edwin, the father of her two beautiful daughters.

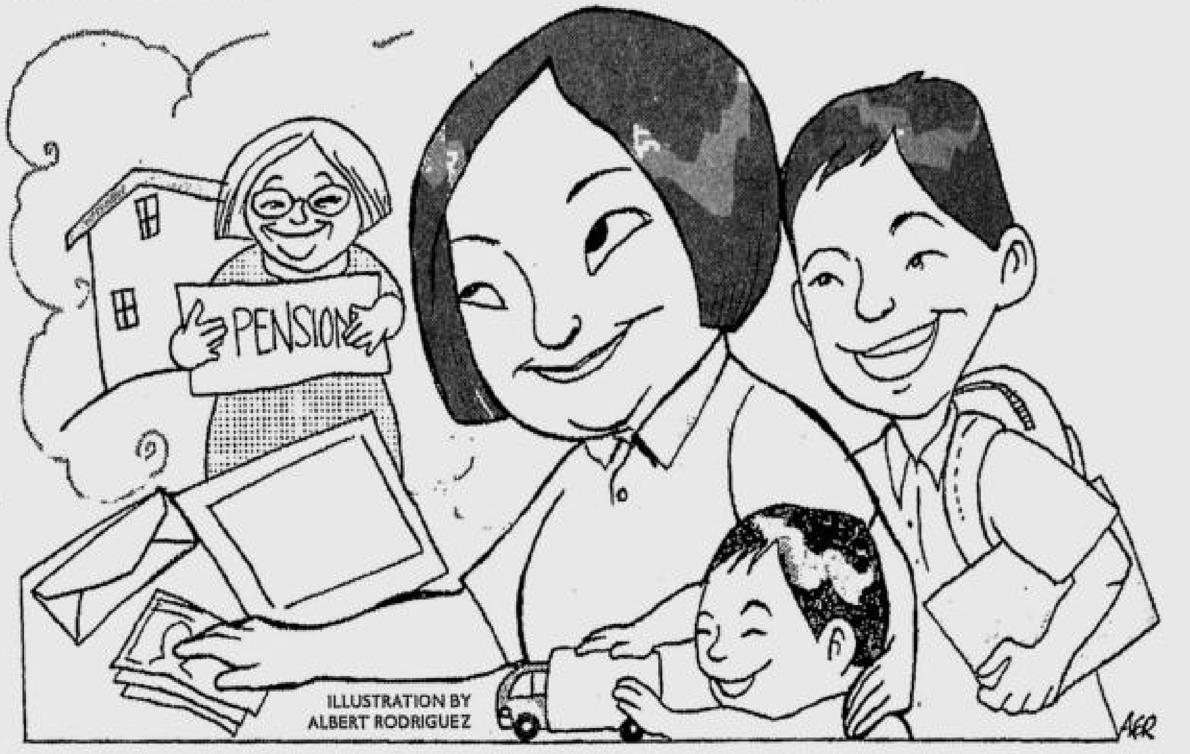

ILLUSTRATION BY ALBERT RODRIGUEZ

Pension plan

Tess Ching, 36 and married with two sons, considers a pension plan a good investment. She is preparing for the time when her sons leave home to start and provide for their own families. By paying P6,700 every six months on her 7-year plan, she will receive a pension at age 60 for her daily expenses. She will not be dependent on her children when she's already too old to work. An only child, her next project is a memorial plan for her 67-year old mother.

Marga Raymundo, a full time freelance writer in her 40s, chose to invest in her writing career. When she finally switched from a manual typewriter to a PC, Marga swears her career "grew by leaps and bounds!" The convenience of email and a fax modem and the quick access to various information on the Internet save her me a lot of time, money and energy. She says, "That's why I encourage budding writers to do the same."

But Marga's more important and lasting "non-material" investment was "working on my low self-esteem," she shares. "I tell you, when I worked on my inferiority complex, great things happened in my life! I admit there are times when I still falter but now it's easier to bounce back and I'm happier with myself."

Marga now conducts writing workshops and has published a book of essays with a second one underway.

Property

Elvie Santos bought the house and lot where her family is staying now with the retirement pay she received after 37 years of hard labor. She considers this a lasting investment. Elvie believes that owning a house is important because "we will need it as long as we live and it's the best investment we can leave to our children."

Although she is now on her tenth year in her present job, this executive secretary wants to stop working for good because she wants to "just stay at home and look after my fifth and latest grandchild, Roby." The doting *lola* looks forward to attending all her *apo's* school activities, something she couldn't do as a working mom to her four children. At age 63, Elvie feels it's time for "my most needed rest and enjoy the remaining years with my family."

The money we earn is meant to be spent. Choosing carefully what and with whom to spend it on makes all our efforts worthwhile.

Choose to invest in good times and memories to create lasting connections, with yourself and with those you value, rather than having a life crowded with possessions.

"Make sure you haven't lost the things that money can't buy. There is no happiness in having or getting, but only in giving." – Og Mandino (A Better Way To Live).

(Send contributions to rreyes@inquirer.com.ph)

Welcome...

(From page G8)

When the interviewer stops asking questions, this is a signal that the interview is coming to a close. Before he mouths that cliché, "Don't call us, we'll call you," use the trial close technique. For example, you can ask, "Sir, what time may I call you or your staff tomorrow for the other requirements for the position?" If you didn't make it, he will say, "No, just wait for our call." But if you have a chance at the job, he may say, "Try calling at 3 p.m." Your trial close question assumes that you will be asked to accomplish the other requirements leading to your eventual employment for the job. If he answers it, in effect, he is saying that you have a sporting chance at the position.

Meeting objections, hidden or not, during the job interview is a challenge that all job seekers must meet successfully to enter the world of work. You have two choices in meeting this challenge: be discouraged or be challenged enough to win. Survivors will choose the winning choice.

(Next week, learn how to "close the sale" in job hunting. Send feedback to rreyes@inquirer. com.ph.)

An Established Network Marketing Co. (MLM) invites suitably qualified and experienced individuals, to fill up the following key positions:

BOOKKEEPER
- Male / Female, 22 to 28 years old
- Accounting graduate, CPA is preferred
- With 1 to 2 years related experience
- Computer literate

INVENTORY CLERK
- Male, at least 24 to 30 years old
- Accounting graduate
- With 1 to 2 years related experience
- Computer literate
- Must have good verbal communication skills and leadership ability

MARKETING ASSISTANT
- Male, 22 to 25 years old, at least 5'6 in height
- Graduate of Marketing or Mass Communications (fresh graduates are welcome)
- Trainable and with good verbal communication skill

OPERATION SECRETARY
- Female, at least 22-28 years old
- Graduate of Computer Science w/ Office Management background
- Computer literate
- With pleasing personality
- With at least (2) years experience
- Highly organized, with strong interpersonal communication skills and results-oriented

GRAPHIC ARTIST/WEB DESIGNER
- Male, at least 23-28 years old
- Fine Arts or Advertising graduate
- Proficiency in the following software (Adobe, Photoshop 7.0, Pagemaker 7.0, Illustrator 8.0, Corel Draw 10, Macromedia, Flash G, Dreamwearer 5, Fireworks)
- With at least (2) years experience in a publishing or multimedia industry
- With knowledge in HTML & Java Script is a plus
- Loads of creativity & patience
- Ability to work under pressure in a fast-paced working environment with keen eye for detail & results-driven
- Excellent communication & interpersonal skills

Please send resumé to:
The Asst. General Manager
3rd Floor, EDMARK Bldg.
No. 355 P. Tuazon Blvd., Corner 21st Avenue,
Cubao, Quezon City
Tel. No. 9135515
E-mail: edmarkbg@info.com.ph

A social enterprise organization engaged in Fair Traded Handicrafts is urgently in need of energetic and innovative people for the following posts:

Finance Department:
Bookkeeper
- Finished Bachelor of Science in Accountancy
- 2-3 years experience in BOOKKEEPING
- Knowledgeable in any related Computer Accounting Programs
- Good written and oral communication and coordination skills
- Hardworking, patient, and highly motivated person
- Can work under pressure and with minimal supervision
- 25-35 years old

Marketing Department:
Depot Supervisor (Wholesale)
- Graduate in any 4-year Business Course (Marketing, Business Administration)
- 2-3 years experience in Wholesaling (Depot)
- Inventory System oriented
- Excellent in oral and written communication and coordination skills
- Patient, hardworking, and highly motivated person
- Can work under pressure and with minimal supervision
- Competent in Business Relations and results-oriented
- Computer literate
- 23-35 years old

Written application letter with your curriculum vitaé should be sent to the Executive Director at 2594 Lamayan St., Sta. Ana, Manila or through Fax No. 563-4632 e-mail: safrudi@skyinet.net. Only pre-qualified applicants will be notified.

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is looking for dynamic & highly competent individuals to strengthen our expanding operations in the financing industry.

ASST. BRANCH MANAGER TRAINEES
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COLLECTOR/CREDIT INVESTIGATORS
Single. Male. 21-27 yrs. old. Accounting graduate or any business related course. With good oral/written communication skills. Personable with good interpersonal skills. Willing to be assigned in the provinces. Must know how to drive a motorcycle

SENIOR AUDITORS
Single. 25-30 yrs. old. Must be a CPA with high scholastic achievement. Computer literate. Proficient in oral/written communication and report preparation. With 2-3 yrs. experience in Internal/External audit functions. Willing to be assigned in the provinces.

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Single. 21-27 yrs. old. BS Accountancy or BSC Accounting graduate. With commendable scholastic records. Proficient in oral/written communication. Personable with good interpersonal skills. Willing to be assigned in the provinces.

Please send your resumé with a 2x2 photo and a brief description of your current work at:

Personnel & Administration
Head Office, 3/F Guevent Bldg.,
49 Libertad St., Mandaluyong City
Tel. Nos. 531-2354, 531-0423, 531-0418
e-mail: rfcmis@netasia.net
Or you may apply personally at any of our local branch nearest you:
Legazpi (052) 480-21-78 Cebu (032) 416-8182
Davao (082) 225-3760

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We are an immigration services company, not a placement agency.

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- ✓ Willing to be assigned anywhere in the Philippines

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- ✓ With experience in object-oriented programming
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- ✓ Can work with minimum supervision
- ✓ Can generate fast and accurate on time reports

Bring resumé with picture to:
Chinatown Steel Tower G-17 Asuncion Street, Binondo, Manila corner San Nicolas Street, Monday to Friday 1:30 to 4:00 p.m.
E-mail address: info@flyacecorp.com

The *Academy for Educational Development*, a US-Based private voluntary organization contracted by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) to implement the "Energy and Environment Policy and Training Program," from 2002-2004, is calling on small, local firms to join its pool of event managers.

Interested parties must meet the following qualifications:
- Specializes in organizing, managing and/or executing any of the following events — trainings, seminars, workshops, public meetings, fora & conferences
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- Capable and willing to handle event management work even on short notice
- Prior experience working for a foreign-funded government project, preferred
- Knowledge of energy and environment issues, preferred

Applicants may send their letters of interest, company profiles and other related information not later than ***COB of 29 November 2002.***

Mail delivery to:
Academy for Educational Development
2nd Floor NPTL Building,
Energy Center, Merritt Rd.,
Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City

Or e-mail to: consultant@pccmp.com.ph

WANTED:
Sales Associates/ Telemarketers
- 21 to 29 years old
- college graduate

submit your bio-data or resumé to:

Chris Sports Plaza
3/F K-Plaza Building,
18 Kamuning Road,
Quezon City

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IMMEDIATE
HIRING

ACCOUNTANT

The candidate will report directly to the vice-president. He/She will be required to prepare reports vital to management decisions. The salary we offer is highly competitive and negotiable depending upon the qualification of the candidate.

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- ✓ Good command in written & oral communication

Contact person: **Myra**

MCPO Box 1646, 1256 Makati City
or call 896-0970; 896-0742/44; 897-5269

URGENTLY NEEDS

Manufacturing Company based in Calamba, Laguna urgently needs applicants for

INDUSTRIAL ENGINEER

with the following qualifications:

- MALE (not more than 30 years old)
- Industrial Engineer graduate
- Experienced & knowledgeable in Process Improvement in a manufacturing Set-up (preferably ISO Certified Company)
- Computer literate (Windows application)
- Good in Oral & Written Communication
- Knowledgeable in ISO 9000 quality Management System
- Preferably a resident of Laguna

Please bring Bio-data with ID picture and apply personally at:

PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT
Super Manufacturing, Inc.
Brgy. Saimsim, Calamba
Laguna

WANTED IMMEDIATELY

GRAPHIC ARTIST

Qualifications:

- ☑ Male/Female, preferably single
- ☑ Preferably Computer Science, Mass Communication, Fine Arts c Advertising graduate
- ☑ Must be knowledgeable in computer software such as JAVA Script, Printshop, Adobe Photoshop 6, AutoDesk, Land Desktop, Compute Animation, Advance CorelDraw, Advance Adobe Illustrator and Advanc Adobe PageMaker
- ☑ Must present portfolio for art samples

RECEPTIONIST

Qualifications:

- ☑ Female, preferably single
- ☑ Must be Masscom or Journalism graduate
- ☑ Knowledgeable in computer and switchboard operation
- ☑ Must be fluent in English
- ☑ Articulate and with good interpersonal skills
- ☑ With pleasing personality

Qualified applicants are requested to send their resumé together with their Transcript of Records and recent ID photo to

Box No 300-P
c/o The Philippine Daily Inquirer
Classified Ads Division
5/F Building B, SM Megamall
EDSA, Mandaluyong City

JC PRIME Management Corporation

As part of our expansion, we invite high caliber, motivated professional and dynamic team player with experience to join our team as:

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Qualifications:

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- Minimum 2 yrs., sales experience in car, pension and insurance

Compensation packages: P10,000.00 Allowance plus commission

Interested applicants may send or hand carry their Comprehensive Resumé, Recent 2x2 picture, Transcript of Records, NBI Clearance to:

PERSONNEL AND ADMINISTRATION DEPT.
JC Prime Management Corporation
Unit 1205 Cityland Herrera Tower Valero
cor. V.A. Rufino (formerly Herrera) Sts.
Brgy. Bel-Air, Salcedo Village, Makati City
Tel. Nos. 753-4546 and 753-45 47

We will only respond to qualified applicants.

Rustan

IS IN IMMEDIATE NEED OF

Director for Systems and Merchandise, Planning & Control (MPC)

Qualifications:

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- Preferably with a post-graduate degree (MBA or MA/MS)
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- Extensive exposure in:
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  - Logistics Management Process
  - Retail Cycle Management
  - Merchandising Performance Benchmarking
- Strong international exposure in retailing; highly knowledgeable in the acquisition and distribution processes of mid to luxury levels of merchandise
- Must have worked for at least 5 years in a senior managerial capacity
- Must possess an outstanding ability and creativity in identifying opportunities for improvement in process, cycle time, accuracy
- Must possess exceptional fluency in both oral, written communication and can develop, mentor team members
- Must be able to deal well with all levels in the organization

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Human Resources & Organization Development Division
G/F, El Mercasol Bldg., EDSA, Mandaluyong City
(Only qualified applicants will be scheduled for an interview)

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We are a publicly listed company in the Hong Kong Stock Exchange providing services in the financial market. Its wholly owned subsidiary office is currently on its expansion phase and is in need of top caliber individuals for the position.

Responsibilities:

Successful individuals would be tasked to broaden clientele base, analyze and provide technical and fundamental market recommendations, and implement marketing plans.

Qualifications:

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- Excellent communication and written skills in English, Filipino (and/or Chinese)
- Relevant financial market experience is preferred
- Established account relationship with high net worth private and Institutional clients
- Pleasing and impressive personality
- With high analytical skills and can work with minimum supervision
- With high inclination to marketing
- Aggressive and dynamic

Come in proper business attire with resume, transcript of records, and two 2 x 2 pictures at:

Unit 907-B, West Tower,
Philippine Stock Exchange Center,
Exchange Road, Ortigas Centre, Pasig City.

Or send your resume to ***recruitment_pm@lycos.com***
(send with no attachments)
Fax # 6381348

Interview and examination schedule is on
Nov 25-27, 2002 at 2pm

Chateau 1771 Group of Restaurants

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Ortigas

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Malate

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The Chateau 1771 Group of Restaurants
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We need people who are willing to go
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We want Active, Mature, Creative individuals.
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from previous employer to:

HR MANAGEMENT GROUP
24th Floor, IBM Plaza, Eastwood City
Libis, Quezon City

* Position available up to December 2, 2002.

IMMEDIATE HIRING AT MAKATI OFFICE

WE NEED

- ✓ College graduates of at least 4-year course from reputable schools
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- ✓ Willing to start immediately (not presently employed nor enrolled)
- ✓ Fluent in English or Chinese
- ✓ With pleasing personality

APPLY AT

Suite 808 Philippine AXA Life Centre
(formerly PSBank Tower)
Sen. Gil Puyat Ave. Makati City
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WE OFFER

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Come in PROPER BUSINESS ATTIRE and bring 2 pcs. of passport-sized pictures, complete resumé and valid ID on November 25, 26, 27 and 28, 2002 (Monday – Thursday) from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (Presently employed and enrolled need not apply).

ALSTOM

ALSTOM is a global specialist in energy and transport infrastructure. In energy, the Company is active in the fields of power generation, power transmission & distribution, and in transport through its activities in rail and marine. ALSTOM is locally represented by ALSTOM Philippines Inc., a fully owned subsidiary, providing after market support, field construction services, and operation and maintenance services for ALSTOM supplied plants and equipment. Currently we need a bright and motivated individual to support ALSTOM Philippines to optimize utilization of resources and direct commercial and contractual risks towards meeting the Company's profitability and growth targets.

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- Provide guidelines and planning parameters, review and co-approve details of strategic plans, budgets and forecasts of the different Businesses, Segments and Sectors.
- Guide operating units towards achieving financial targets thru efficient management of working capital and proper management of expense budgets.
- Coordinate risks review policies and standards with Corporate Risk Management, and participate in risk review prior to award of contracts and during contract execution.
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- Ensure overall company compliance with tax and regulatory requirements including filing of accurate and timely returns and other corporate submittals to SEC, BIR and other government agencies.

Requirements:

- Commerce/Business Administration or Economics degree with substantial finance, business management experience and with a good working knowledge of accounting and auditing principles.
- Should possess a minimum of 5 years relevant experience, preferably with a multinational company in the energy, power, construction, telecommunication or similar industries, and 2 years experience in corporate planning, audit or accounting function.
- Fluent in oral and written English.
- Must be self-driven and should possess a high level of professionalism and good inter-personal skills.

Successful Candidates will receive an attractive remuneration package together with other fringe benefits based on qualification and experience. Applicants should submit their resumé with details of academic qualification, work experience, present and expected salary, contact telephone number and e-mail together with passport-sized photographs not later than December 09, 2002.

Application may send to
ALSTOM PHILIPPINES INC.
Unit 9C Equitable Bank Tower,
8751 Paseo de Roxas
Makati City
E-mail address: philippines@power.alstom.com

Human Resources Department
Attn: Terry S. Sanchez

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Or hand carry your resumé at:
Unit 1017 Cityland 10 Tower 1 6815 H.V. Dela Costa St.,
Salcedo Village, Makati City

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Madre Ignacia Ave., corner 9th Sts.
Grace Park, 1400 Caloocan City

WANTED
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Graduate of:

B.S. Computer Secretarial/Secretarial Administration/ Computer Science

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- Good command of the English Language
- Male/Female; not more than 30 years old, single
- With pleasing personality/Excellent customer service orientation

APPLY PERSONALLY AT:
NOTRE DAME OF GREATER MANILA
Madre Ignacia Ave. corner 9th Streets
Grace Park, Caloocan City (361-74-35 loc. 101)

Bring: Transcript of Records, handwritten application letter, Bio Data, SSS #, TIN, (1) ID Picture (1 x 1)

A Commercial & Packaging
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IS IN URGENT NEED OF THE FOLLOWING:

SR. ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE

College graduate, with vast contacts and has experience in dealing with Ad Agencies. Must be computer literate, hardworking, highly personable and honest.

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Tel. Nos. 831-9668 / 831-0429 / 831-7549

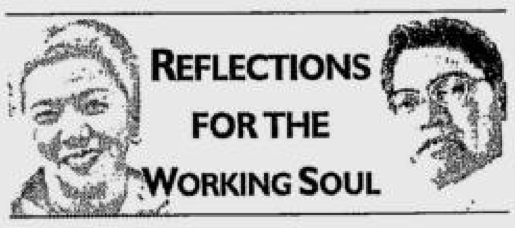
e-mail: peopleatwork@inquirer.com.ph.

Sunday PEOPLE at WORK

Contributing Editor Regina Galang Reyes

The least of workers

By Teresa R. Tunay



WHO is "the least" in the workers' world? For me it's not the janitor—it's the child who sells *sampaguita*, risking life and limb to earn a living when she should be carefree in kindergarten. They're nine in the family; her mother is a *labandera*, her father jobless.

She knocks on my car window at busy intersections, and dripping wet on a rainy night pleads: "*Sige na. Bumili na kayo para makauwi na ako!*"

Her sales pitch bothers me like an alarm clock with a will of its own. Remembering that whatever I do to her, the least of my co-workers, I do to Jesus, I want to buy out of compassion, but wouldn't that help perpetuate a situation that endangers her life and her future, too?

She works at odd hours of the day, without SSS benefits, accident or life insurance while her income is not even hers to dispose of. Supporting her business would be unjust to her, so–do I buy? Sometimes I do. Other times, I don't, and just drive away with a heavy heart, yet believing that God would see through my dilemma and bring justice to her in His own time, His own way.

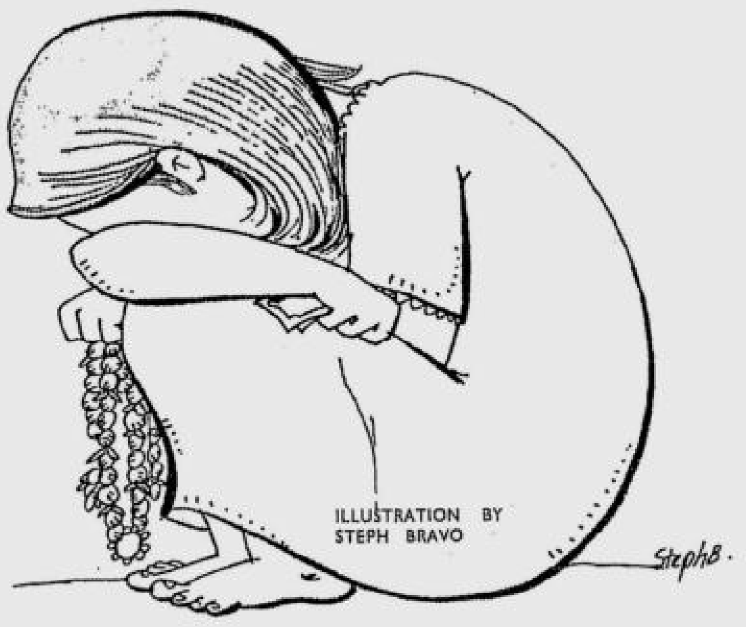


ILLUSTRATION BY STEPH BRAVO

ILLUSTRATION BY STEPH BRAVO

Work is prayer, too

By Bishop Precioso Cantillas, SDB, DD

MANY of us feel that our work makes us too exhausted to think of God. We want to spend time with God in worship and prayer, but our job demands too much of us that we simply have no more time to pray. How can we unite ourselves with God in our daily chores?

Our work can become our prayer to God, too. Jesus said: "Whatever you do to the least of my brothers, you do unto me." The work we do to keep our family; to feed, clothe and send our children to school; to financially support our relatives and neighbors who ask us help for hospitalization or for some other basic necessities–these deeds are done to Jesus Himself. The hardships we endure in our daily work become our offering to Jesus; our work, a living sacrifice of praise to the Lord.

Our prayers offered on the altars of our churches should bring us to offer works of charity on the altars of the hungry, the sick and the oppressed. We worship the Lord not only with our hands clasped in fervent prayer, but also with our hands opened and stretched out in loving service to our neighbors.

MARKETING BRAND 'YOU'

Welcome objections with a smile

By Regina Galang Reyes

(This is the sixth installment of the article, "Make brand 'you' a hit in the job market.")

CONFIDENTLY presenting your features, advantages and benefits in a job interview, you somehow sense resistance from the interviewer. You can see from the way he is looking at his papers or shaking his head that he is mentally blocking out what you are saying. You are starting to be anxious—was there something you said or did that triggered his negative response? Depressed, your face betrays your anxiety and nervousness.

Welcome stage

You are now entering the roughest phase of the interview—the stage of objections. This is the stage where the interviewer has already formed his initial evaluation of your credentials based on his first impression or your behavior. Depending on his personality type and yours, at this point, you and the interviewer may or may not have established rapport.

But don't despair. Most often than not, resistance to your presentation stems not from your faults (which everyone has) but from the mental and emotional state of the interviewer. While he may be a professional, he is being swayed by his life programs to react to you in a certain way. First, he is influenced by his personal state like his income, age, gender and situation. Second, he is influenced by past psychological experiences, personality, attitudes and beliefs and perceptions about life in general. Third, he is influenced by society, the culture, social class, friends and family. In short, he is like any other "buyer" who is subject to influences to "buying behavior." In this situation, you need to draw from successful sales techniques to enable you to get your dream job.

Turning the tide

How can you now turn this situation to your favor? First, it is important for you NOT to form a negative opinion of the interviewer. While it is natural to counter resistance with resistance, your body language and speech will betray your negative thoughts, whether you like it or not. And the interviewer will see this as your having a chip on your shoulder or "attitude." Once he starts thinking this, you are dead meat and surely will be shown out the door pronto. Second, it is important not to lose your cool nor overcompensate by being boastful. Some applicants, in an effort to put their best foot forward, often come out as *mayabang*. This is a fatal mistake. Third, think of resistance as something that's welcome. This is an advice frequently given to salespersons. Resistance may be an objection to your application but it is also an opportunity for you to finally clinch the job.

Steps to handle objections

These are the steps that you have to take to effectively handle objections:

- Plan for them. You know your strengths and weaknesses. Prepare an answer for each of your weaknesses. For example, a common objection is lack of experience for a certain job. For example, if you are a new graduate and applying for your first job, you definitely will not have work experience. During the interview, you can highlight your competencies for the position that you have gained through participation in your school activities, on-the-job training or seminars that can substitute for your lack of work experience. In this manner, you can forestall the objection.
- Handle objections calmly when they arise. A smile is your best defense against an objection. When the interviewer points out your handicaps for the position, first smile, then listen and respond appropriately to the objection.
- Hear him out. Don't meet his objection head on by denying your weakness flat out. Try rephrasing his objection. For example, you can say, "Sir, are you saying that because I don't have any work experience, I may have less chances to be hired for the job?" Once you have clarified and understood his objection, respond warmly and positively. If it is true, have the grace to admit it and then point out some of your positive qualities that can balance out your weakness. If not, cite instances that prove your point without being defensive. The rule in this situation is to be honest without overemphasizing your handicaps. For example, when your interviewer says, "You've transferred companies twice in the year. Do you think you have what it takes to stay with our company?" you can say with a smile, "Sir, I realize now that hopping from one company to another is not good for my professional growth. Learning from this experience, this time, I hope to be able to show what I can contribute to your company for the long term."
- Then, to see if you have met the objection effectively, try to "close the sale" or test if the interviewer will ask you to come back for the next step in the recruitment process.

ILLUSTRATION BY ALBERT RODRIGUEZ

SEE WELCOME/G6

Get aggressive to get the job you want

By Lisette Hilton

JOB-HUNTING can be excruciating for the hunter. If you lost your job, the hunt for a new one can be identity threatening and rejection-filled.

Depending on your luck and skills, job hunting can tear down the biggest of egos.

The best approach, says Barry Cohen, university employment coordinator for City University of New York, is to tackle job-hunting aggressively. Cohen said that there are three stages in obtaining your next position. The first is to get the interview.

Good resumés

You'll find that your cover letter and resumé are critical. It's a myth that people don't judge you by what you send.

The reality is an HR professional will scan a resumé in seven seconds, if that long. If they don't like what they see, you're gone.

The second stage is once you're called into the interview, convert that interview into an offer. If you can't get an offer, get a hand off or a referral.

Third, you have to be able to negotiate what you're worth. You never get what you deserve. You get what you negotiate.

Recruiters

By using the Internet, applying to different employment agencies and recruiters, scanning the want ads and working through referrals, you cover the bases of aggressive job-hunting.

Recruiters can be helpful in that they have corporate relationships in place. There are two types of recruiters: contingency and retainer. The contingency type gets paid between 15 to 33 percent of what you'll earn after you accept your position. The retainer types are paid in advance. They generally work for highly specialized jobs. Remember that recruiters don't work for them. They work for the companies that pay them.

Job recruiting Internet sites are good sources in your job hunt. But remember that by putting your resumé on the Internet, you're posting personal information for all the world to see.

Often, your resumé will get you the interview, so it's imperative that it's written well.

Consider sending your resumé to multiple employers so that you get as many interviews as possible. Do something everyday for your search. Send out resumés, make phone calls to ensure that they have been received. But don't be a pest, one call will do.

Interview

Interview like a jobholder, not a job hunter. Job hunters might come across as needy, dejected.

Too much honesty isn't necessarily a good thing. Sometimes being too honest and revealing can turn against you in the job-hunting process. When an employer asks you, "Why did you leave your last job?" or "Why were you let go?" he's really asking: "What's wrong with you?" An example response is: "My company suffered a severe downsizing. My immediate boss had no choice but to let me go and after she let me go, she was let go."

Be professional

Don't come into the interview cocky. Dress professionally. In salary negotiations, the person who mentions the number first loses. When they ask you how much you are looking for, say that you don't want to disqualify yourself by a number, can you tell me how much you have budgeted for this position? You can also give employers a ballpark, saying that your current compensation package is in the $60,000 range and that you want to stay in that range. Lump all your compensation together. By throwing out numbers you might sell yourself short. After all, you don't know the company's range of salary or compensation.

Say thanks by sending thank-you letters within 24 hours of each interview. If three people interview you at one company, send three separate thank you notes. Cohen says that when competition for a job is tight, thank you notes have the power of swaying an employer your way.

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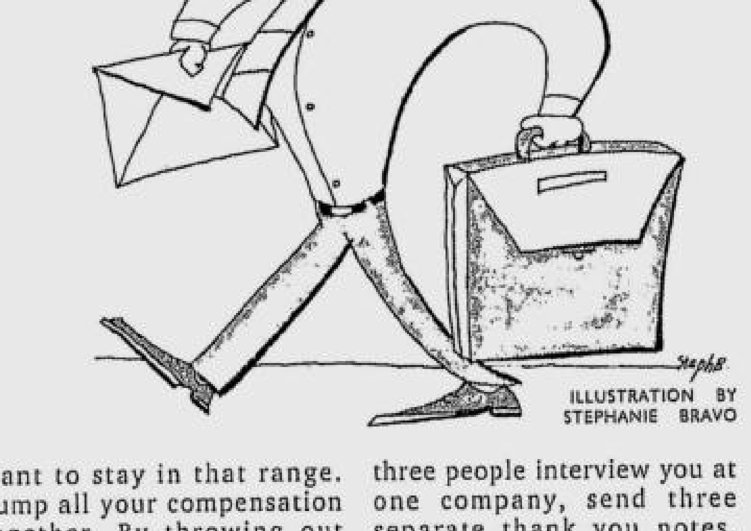

ILLUSTRATION BY STEPHANIE BRAVO

sunday INQUIRER magazine
GET TO KNOW SOME REAL PEOPLE
November 24, 2002

Namcya Winners

Giving the Gift of Music

Cream of the crop (standing, left to right): Coke Bolipata, Rachelle Gerodias and Tony Maigue; (seated) Regina Buenaventura, Alexis Edralin and John Sarreal

As the venerable National Music Competitions for Young Artists (Namcya) marks its 27th year, three distinguished musicians and three rising young stars, winners all, talk about the challenge and fulfillment of their art

By Alya B. Honasan
Photographs by Chito Vecina

AMONG themselves, these six people probably have thousands of performances to their credit, and the corresponding millions of hours in practice to prepare for them. Such is the life of the classical musician, that shining standard of a performer who, sad to say, still gets little opportunity and less compensation in this country, where every excuse is made to throw culture to the bottom of the list of national priorities. Fortunately, that reality doesn't seem to faze them.

What they also have in common is having passed through the fine, life-changing sieve that is the National Music Competitions for Young Artists (Namcya), the closest the Philippines has to a Holy Grail of classical music competitions. Established in [illegible] with the mission of discovering young talents and now spread out over 16 regions, it remains the largest youth development program in the country, having held 17 competitions and awarded 560 winners to date, many of whom have put the Philippines on the international music map. The Namcya Foundation was established in 1987 to run the competitions that highlight the annual National Music Week. This year's competitions begin tomorrow, November 25.

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Controversies

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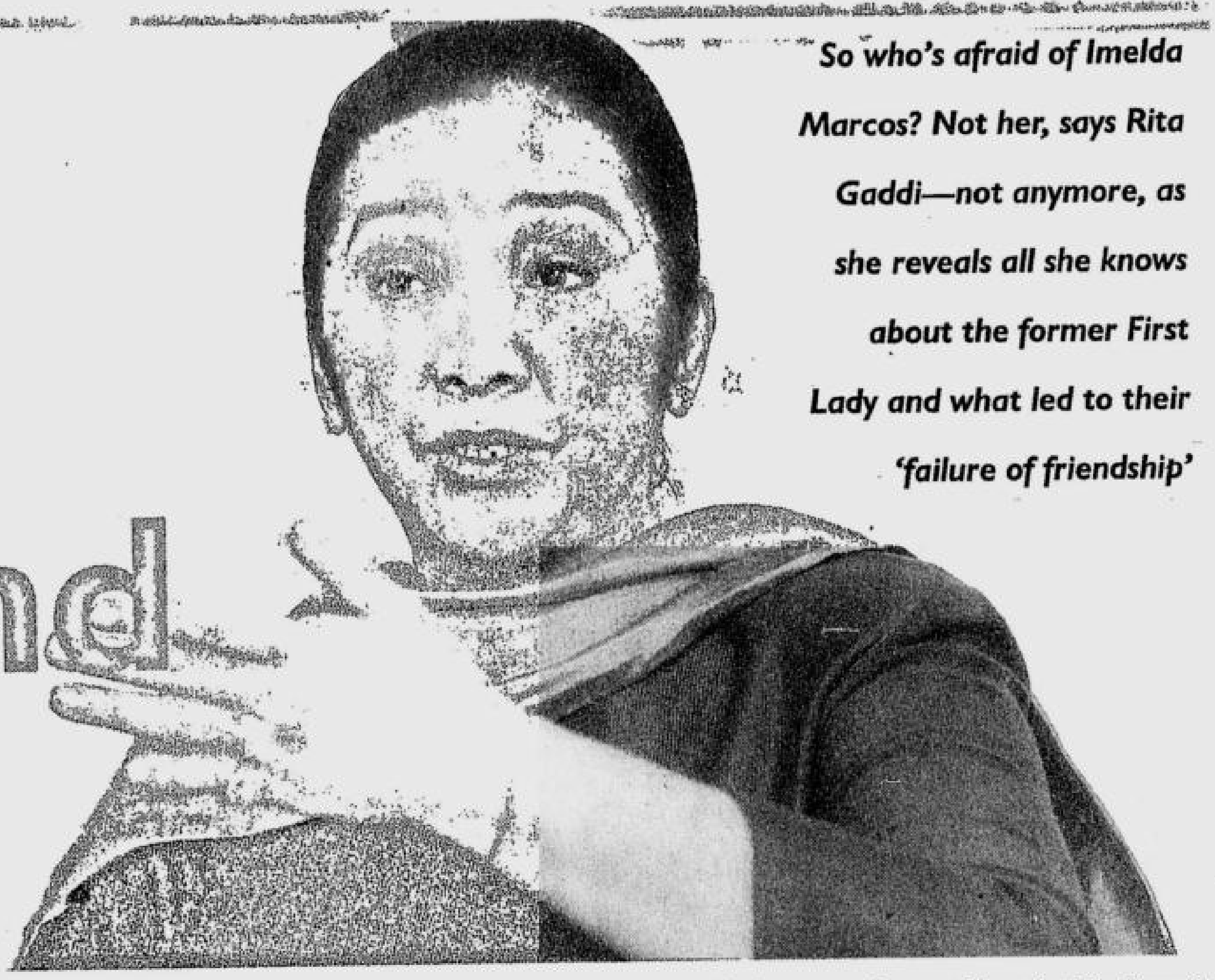
Confessions of An Ex-Friend

So who's afraid of Imelda Marcos? Not her, says Rita Gaddi—not anymore, as she reveals all she knows about the former First Lady and what led to their 'failure of friendship'


RANDY HORMILLOSA

AFTER 30 years of working for the Marcos couple, Rita Bagtas Gaddi cannot recall exactly when her friendship with former First Lady Imelda Marcos ended.

"It was something very personal between her and me, and one day I decided I wanted to be free," says Gaddi, a broadcaster for government television from 1974 until the ouster of the Marcoses in 1986. "After many years of voluntary servitude, I can now breathe. I have gained my freedom and this is priceless," reveals this Carlos Palanca literary awardee for poetry in 1964 and 1977.

A "failure of friendship" is how Gaddi describes her estrangement from Imelda, and that of other Marcos loyalists who have stayed on with the flamboyant widow after the overthrow and death of her husband. But she admits that she resents Imelda's statement that she and the others were only after her money.

"I became her friend when they were no longer in power," claims the 57-year-old mother of four aged 13 to 36. "I was there for her when nobody wanted to be seen and associated with her. I had no business concessions with Malacañang and absolutely no financial dealings with her or her family."

Gaddi, a philosophy graduate of the University of Sto. Tomas and literary editor of the campus publication The Varsitarian, became a broadcaster for Maharlika Broadcasting Co. in 1974, and was always chosen to cover the Marcoses' overseas trips. She also hosted the government talk show "Face the Nation." She is, however, remembered for reading, along with Filipinized broadcaster Ronnie Nathanielz, the Commission on Elections tally that showed Marcos as winning the 1985 snap elections, when the Namfrel figures had Corazon Aquino on the lead.

But Gaddi claims to have received no special privilege for her loyalty. "I was just an announcer," she insists. "I had no title, no office, no vehicle. My salary, P8,000, was the same up to the time I left," she adds. And because she appeared to be a favorite of the Marcoses, Gaddi says she was subjected to intrigues from Malacañang insiders and that her contract with the government would occasionally be shortened from six to three months.

Still, working so close to the former President has stirred in her an enduring admiration for the man. The loyalty of thousands to Marcos up to this day continues to astound her. She recalls how a delegation from Bukidnon left on his tomb a book where they had listed their names. They wanted the deposed President to know that they still love him, she adds. "There's no phenomenon like this," she says.

"He had vision and he was a man of strength because declaring martial is an act of strength. From his point of view, it was necessary at that stage because the communist insurgency was at its height."

But, she adds, her relationship with the Marcoses was purely professional, although she did not consider herself Imelda's friend. "I never sat down at the dinner table with her," she recalls. "If at all, I ate in one of the tables in the same banquet hall while covering her," she said.

Their friendship, by her estimation, developed when the Marcoses were exiled in Hawaii and subsequently, when Imelda became widowed and had her trial in New York in 1990.

She paid dearly for such association, Gaddi recounts. She remembers how "half of ATOM (August Twenty One Movement)" members picketed her house in White Plains, calling her "*Tuta ni* Marcos (lapdog)." She was also prevented from leaving the country, and was investigated by the PCGG of the then newly-installed Aquino government. "They found nothing. I had no assets, no properties. I just had a contract with Channel 4," she recalls. Her White Plains house, which she said she got from a GSIS loan, was eventually foreclosed because she could not pay the amortization.

When she was allowed to leave the country in December 1986, Gaddi passed by Hawaii on her way to join her family in Sacramento, California. Marcos, she recalls, appeared "completely rejuvenated and at the peak of his health. He really looked at peace, no trace of bitterness in him." She recalls him asking, "How is the country? Our people?" She gushes, "He was still profound. He never had an unkind word about the Aquino administration."

After Marcos died, his widow faced trial in New York. "That's when I felt she needed to know that there are still people who love her and her husband," says Gaddi who, forthwith, worked as a paralegal for Imelda's lawyer Gerry Spence for three or four months of the trial. She recalls that she had to leave her youngest child with her older daughter in California while she attended to Imelda in New York. Meanwhile, her firstborn drove to fetch food and other needs for Imelda during the trial.

Before Imelda returned to the country in 1991, Gaddi says they had an intimate talk about her political plans. She recalls advising the former First Lady not to run for president but maybe for vice president, or get appointed as a foreign minister. "She knew a lot of heads of state, and was effective in her diplomatic missions for President Marcos. I think foreign affairs was her forte," notes Gaddi. But, she adds, "Imelda is not Marcos," and was not suitable to run for the highest office.

Although she wrote political speeches for Imelda, Gaddi says she did not join her campaigns for the presidency in 1992 and 1998. "I loved to write. Imelda has her own style and she would tell me what to include in the speech."

Such closeness ended when Imelda "put a price tag" on their friendship, Gaddi says.

"That is painful because I cherished her as a friend. But then," she adds, "her motivation has always been financial. That is the best definition she has made of herself. Her soul, it appears, has a counting machine. I am really appalled by her," she adds. "My family went through hard times, but we were not poor," Gaddi sniffs.

Born May 22, 1945 in Manila to Dr. Gil and Dr. Emma Bagtas Gaddi, Rita's parents were both long-time mayors of Kidapawan, North Cotabato. Gaddi's grandfather Jose Bagtas was a public works undersecretary.

"When I was growing up, I don't remember watching television," says Gaddi, the eldest of three children. "My grandma, my mentor, tutored me on paintings and music. It was really the old world," she recalls. In college, she belonged to a group of campus journalists that included former Sen. Francisco "Kit" Tatad, rumored to be her former beau. "At that time, girls were not allowed to walk with boys but we were special because we belonged to the college organ," she says. Gaddi took post-graduate studies in UP and finished a law degree in San Beda. She also worked as assistant editor at F. Sionil Jose's Solidarity magazine.

Gaddi, who married (and is now separated from) Danner Baltazar, recalls how she got into broadcasting by accident. With an international science conference coming up in the country, columnist Carmen Guerrero Nakpil asked her to edit some of the scientific papers that Nakpil and former Human Settlements official Jolly Benitez would feature in their TV show. When the two hosts could not make it to the TV show on the third day of the conference, Gaddi was asked to pinch-hit for them. She was completely ignorant about the medium, she recounts. "I didn't know where to look and they had all these gestures that I could not understand. So they gave me instructions on paper that I sometimes mistakenly read," she says, laughing. But she conducted the interviews well.

When the IMF held its first meeting in Asia, government broadcaster Vero Perfecto died and again, Gaddi was asked to replace him. "They told me that President Marcos requested me to take over because he had seen me on the other show," she recalls.

On her first TV show, "Face the Nation," she had Marcos as her first guest. Her colleagues were drinking juice on the set, and she recalls trying to break the ice by telling her guest, "Mr. President, you have truth serum in your juice so you have to tell everything in my show."

Her audacity led to her personal introduction to Marcos, who forgot that he stood as principal sponsor at her wedding a few months after he first became President.

"My wedding was the first wedding he attended as President," she recalls.

Gaddi's parents were known to be Marcos allies. Long before she worked for the Marcoses, she had seen the Marcoses in her parents' and grandparents' house while he was campaigning for the presidency in 1964. "I met Imelda when she was still the Senate president's wife. She went to my grandparents' house to campaign," says Gaddi, who was 18 at the time. Her parents even told her not to get married until after Marcos got elected.

Gaddi admits that her service with the Marcoses set back her poetry. "My poetry was held at bay. I had to sacrifice it for my family, being a single parent," she says.

Now she's back to her first love after having lived incognito for many years since her Marcos days. Gaddi has been designated by her group to author the tell-all book of Imelda's former loyalists, allies, supporters and friends. She has written three chapters so far.

"I have no fear of Imelda," she chuckles. Nor would she patch things up with the former First Lady. "I left her completely whole. I have nothing in me that she can patch up. I feel blessed that I've reached the stage when I can correct myself. I hope she will, too."

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Editor in Chief — **Alya B. Honasan**
Managing Editor — **Pennie Azarcon-dela Cruz**
Associate Editor — **Ruel S. De Vera**
Staff Writer — **Eric S. Caruncho**
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Advertising & Sales Manager — **Kenny Nuyda**

THE Sunday INQUIRER MAGAZINE holds office at Chino Roces Ave. (formerly Pasong Tamo) corner Yague and Mascardo Sts., Makati City, with telephone number 897-8808 locals 317 and 318. Mailing address: PO Box 2050, 1099 Manila, Philippines. E-mail: sim@inquirer.com.ph. For press releases, send e-mail to pr_sim@inquirer.com.ph.

'TRANSLUCENT LIFE' Glass sculptor Ramon Orlina exhibits 18 new interpretations of life forms, including the all-new Martial Art Forms of human figures in various poses, at Gallery Nine, 4/L, SM Megamall until Nov. 30. Also included are recent works of birds, foliage, lovers, family and the all-popular "Ning-Ning" series. *For more of This Week, see page 7*

The Metropolis

The metropolis breathes
people
in two directions, and only two:
Away from you, or Toward you,
which always matures
into Past you.
All faces, even those
cast in the brownest skins,
have a stagnant paleness to them.
Their eyes are clear-
(I can see there is nothing to be found in them)
my eyes are worse.

The buildings stand
giant-still between people.
They seem quiet enough
to listen to us,
but their silence bares only
an absence.
Inside them the winds
are restless and cold
as the pedestrians outside.

The metropolis fingers
the last tremors of warmth.
My hands and feet have already hardened
bone-white in perfection,
pith frozen brittle.

My breath catches
on the fishbone branches of a tree
too skeletal to even have a name.
It reaches up to the sky
like a stillborn wish.

Anjeline de Dios

Karimlan

Hinahampas ng karimlan
takot sa kadiliman
Ipipikit mga mata
Tahan na tahan na.

Babagsak ang butil
Lagi mong inuukilkil
Sa di kalayuan
Nakaambang kabuuan

Sina Maria, Juana, Isabilita
Nanlalaki bilasang mata
Hinahabol mga ulol
Duon sa may burol

Isa, dalawa, tatlo
Lagi na lang talo
Uupo, tatayo, luluhod
Mangangatog mga tuhod

Masukal na kagubatan
Yuyuko mga kawayan
Ibibilad ang katawan
Paghampas ng karimlan.

Joan Bondoc

Namcya

...from page 1

Maigue the perfectionist meets Sarreal the environmentalist

The three senior artists—violinist Alfonso "Coke" Bolipata, 38; flutist Antonio "Tony" Maigue, 40; and soprano Ma. Rachelle Gerodias, 31—all look back on their Namcya victories as turning points. "My career changed after that," says Bolipata. "At that time, the competition led to scholarships abroad, and if then First Lady Imelda Marcos noticed you, she would help you. It happened to all of us."

"It opened doors for me, and one thing led to another," seconds Maigue. "And it has remained very relevant," adds Gerodias. "In fact, if we could have more of these competitions in the country to give young people the experience, all the better."

Serendipitously, all three now find themselves involved in teaching young musicians. Bolipata, Namcya first prize winner for violin in 1977, is the moving force behind Casa San Miguel in Zambales and is artistic director of the Pundaquit Chamber Players. He is in Zambales three days a week, working with some 20 violin scholars. That's not counting his classes at Miriam College, his 15 private scholars, and the members of the Metro Manila Community Orchestra, which he heads. The would-be virtuosos range in age from 3 to 21.

Bolipata himself started playing the violin at age 8, studying with Oscar Yatco. "I was predestined to be in classical music, as everybody in my family played an instrument." After his Namcya win, Bolipata left for studies at the Julliard School of Music, and trained under the likes of Ani Kavafian and Jascha Brodsky. A seasoned international performer, he later formed an acclaimed trio with his brothers, pianist Jaime and cellist Chino.

Bolipata never planned on being a mentor, but it seemed the most obvious way to give back. Today he's "apprehensive" about encouraging his "kids" to pursue the same career. "There's not much a person can do here in terms of classical music. If you're gifted, you have to go abroad to study, and you're talking about spending some P2 million, but making only about P50,000 a month in returns. You really have to love what you're doing."

What of today's aspiring young musicians? "Well, kids are a lot quicker, more experienced. But I do tell them there are a lot of sacrifices." Can he tell when a student is ready for the big time? "In violin you're never good enough," Bolipata laughs. "It's one of those Zen things when you're always halfway to your destination. More than anything, it will be a competition against yourself, about pushing yourself to the edge to see what you can do."

"Practice, practice, practice, but don't waste their time" is Tony Maigue's advice. "You need concentration. You have to think. Research. Be well-rounded." It's advice you'd expect from a guy who started quite late on the classical route, at age 14, but fiddled with the piano and classical guitar first before falling in love with the flute. "When you're young, you don't think of careers," Maigue recalls. "You do things you're happy doing. I was studying electrical engineering while I was making music, and music eventually won out." Maigue initially taught himself to play the flute and was actually performing in jazz bars before making it to the University of the Philippines (UP) College of Music. "I had a normal childhood," he notes. "When I was a kid, I never thought I was gifted, but I was a perfectionist on my own." That's what led to his five-hour practice sessions.

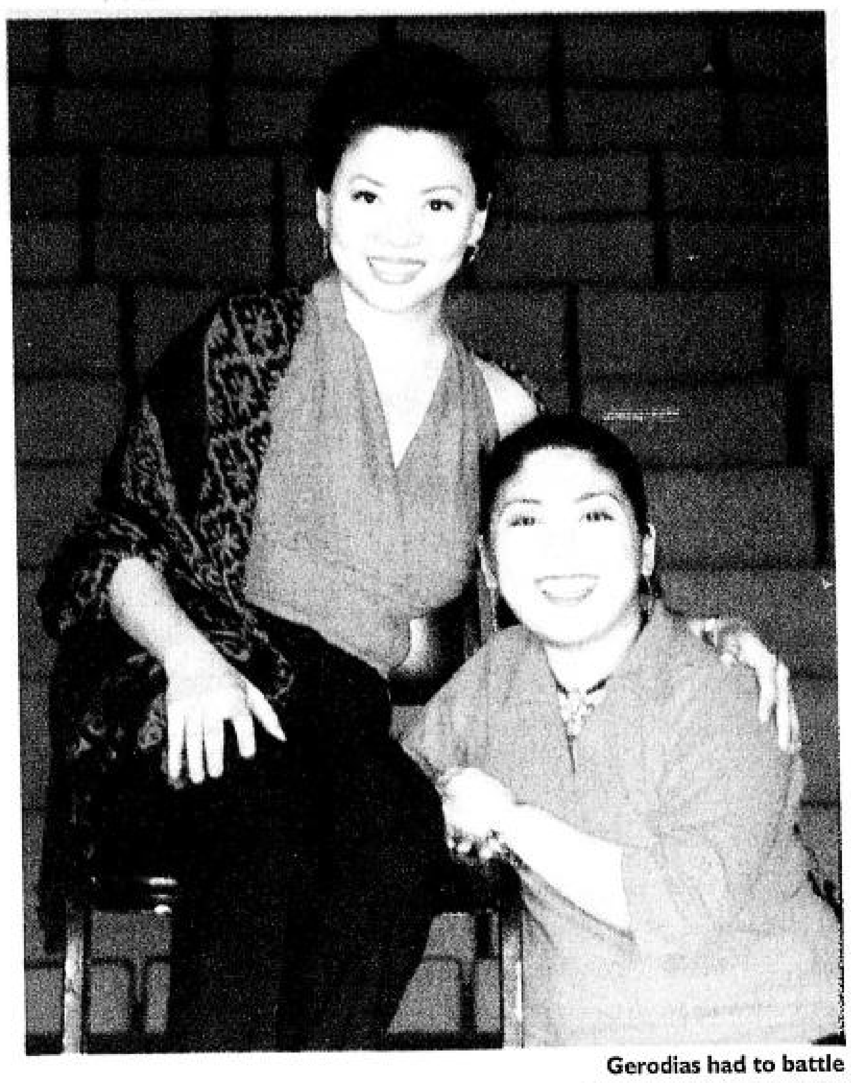
After winning first prize for flute in the Namcya in 1979, Maigue played solo for the Philippine Youth Orchestra and toured the country. He won scholarships to music camps in the United States and Japan before taking off for the Conservatoire National de Rueil-Malmaison in Paris, studying under such masters as Jean-Pierre Rampal.

Maigue has been teaching since 1987, and now has students at UP, St. Scholastica's College and his private studio. He believes there is greater access to education for Filipino flute students in the country today. "Unfortunately, if you stay here, you become *kampante*(complacent), and that's why others go abroad. I myself still perform abroad once or twice a year. You need to do that to see your level." The most important part of performing, he says, is "being honest with yourself, knowing what you're capable of doing or not. Otherwise, how can you be honest with your audience?"

Just getting up in front of that audience was initially an ordeal for Rachelle Gerodias, who won second prize for solo voice in the Namcya in 1990. "I used to have such bad stage fright," recalls the lyric soprano, who considers her role as Rosita in Rolando Tinio's Filipinized "La Boheme" in 1992 the turning point in her career. Today, with a master's degree in voice performance and literature from the Eastmann School of Music in Rochester, New York and a professional diploma from the Hong Kong Academy of the Performing Arts, stage fright is just a memory. "Now, I enjoy myself a lot onstage. When I won the Namcya, I was just 18. My teacher Gloria Coronel wanted me to try it for the learning experience. I wasn't even sure I was going to get into it as a career."

Earlier on, this high schooler at the Union High School of Manila also needed the blessing of her parents, who were both active in their church and had originally wanted her to study theology. "I had never even seen an opera!" Inspired by her contemporaries, tenor Andrew Fernando and pop singer Lani Misalucha, Gerodias won a school gospel singing contest on her second try. Soon, "God orchestrated everything"—and Gerodias tucked many more performances and competition awards under her belt. She has been teaching at UP and at her alma mater, the University of Santo Tomas, since her return in 1998.

"When I compare young artists now to those of my generation, I'd say we had to work harder," she observes. "They're more privileged now because of technology. We had to hunt down classical cassettes then, make do with what was available." Although she considers herself primarily a performer, Gerodias does see herself in some of her students. "And that's motivation for me to be a better teacher." Although she admits she's "an average Filipina" when not singing—"watching movies, eating out with friends"—classical music is a wholehearted commitment, she stresses. Success, Gerodias says, takes "a combination of talent and attitude. I can say I'm selective with my students, and I favor the ones with both their hearts and minds in it. They should be able to see their goal because it's hard in this country; we don't have a recognized opera company. That's the role of teachers, of competitions like Namcya—to open their minds."



Gerodias had to battle stage fright, and Edralin admires Kiri Te Kanawa

Fortunately, new generations of young musicians are already coming in with the right attitude. "People tell me that a lot," admits Regina Buenaventura when we note how focused she seems. Now 14 years old, she won first prize for violin in the Namcya in 1999, when she was only 11. Although she's granddaughter to the late National Artist for Music Col. Antonino Buenaventura and learned to play violin at her grandmother's feet, she's a self-motivated young woman. "When you're 7, you don't know how famous your *lolo* is," she laughs. Practice means about six hours of work a day and giving up on *barkada* gimmicks, which she has learned not to mind. "I used to practice just two or three hours, but I built it up, because I wanted to get better."

There have been "more opportunities, more performances and connections" since the Namcya victory, says this eighth grade Texas Tech correspondence student who knew she wanted to make music as early as age 7. "When you play well, it's like your heart opens up." She clearly sees herself concertizing and playing "everywhere" in five years. In the meantime, concessions to youth remain when she's preoccupied with reading, drawing, surfing the Net, or talking with her brother—who, incidentally, is a cello player and fellow Namcya winner.

John Raymond Sarreal isn't as sure about making music a career, and is inclined to study business right now, but "you never know what the future will bring," he says wisely. That's because the tall 16-year-old high school junior at San Beda is also a track-and-field athlete and nature-lover who spends weekends climbing mountains and picking up trash on his climbs! John won the Namcya first prize in solo flute twice, in 1995 and 1998, the first time when he was only 9. "Nobody else in my family was into music then, but my brothers soon followed. Now, they play the clarinet, trumpet, saxophone, French horn—and I'm also trying to learn to play the saxophone." With his Namcya victory, says John, came the realization that "God gave me the talent, so I should maximize it. It's become a real challenge for me."

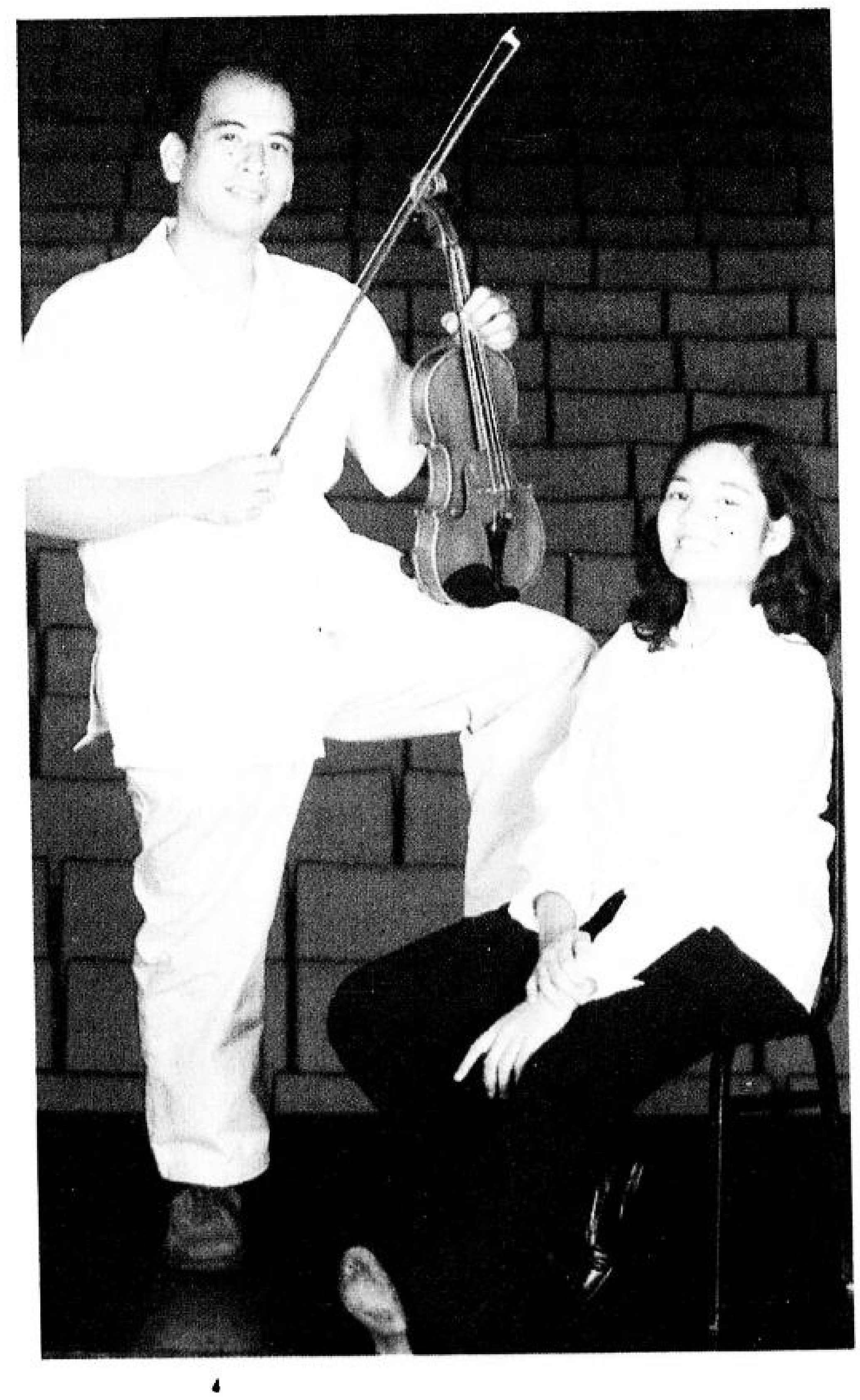
He's training his sights on his chosen athletic events, the long-distance runs, but John has already participated in local and regional junior track meets. Oh, and he has toured with the Asian Youth Orchestra, and is both a 1999 Jose Rizal Gintong Kabataan Awardee and a 2000 Young Achievers Awardee for Arts and Culture. Still, this soft-spoken overachiever manages to squeeze in about two hours of flute practice a day. His latest mission: planting trees during climbs with some of Manila's mountaineering groups. "It really lifts the spirit, especially when you pass the trees you've planted and see them growing."

Twenty-year-old Alexis Eliza Edralin was likewise raised on classical music. This Namcya 1999 first place winner for solo voice has been singing since she was 9, and the exposure helped; her father is a tenor, and she practically grew up running around the Cultural Center of the Philippines when her mother was working with Tanghalang Pilipino.

Now in her second year of voice studies at the UP College of Music, Edralin dreams of singing like her idol Kiri Te Kanawa, taking her master's and performing the music of Mozart and Bach both here and abroad. Is she still a normal youngster when she's not singing? "Oh, I sing all the time," she points out. "There are some sacrifices, but I know I have to practice."

Otherwise, there's time to relax, watch TV, and go out of town with friends. When asked if this is the career she wants, however, the bubbly Edralin almost squeals in enthusiastic response. "Oh, yes!"

With this kind of spirit, there's little doubt that the next generation of Filipino classical musicians will be ready to receive the torch.



Bolipata believes a violinist is "never good enough," but Buenaventura is determined to "get even better"

Twists of Fate

By Abe Florendo

When Jamby Met Eric

SHE strides into the lobby coffeeshop of a Makati hotel, slim, tall and elegant, with a cellphone stuck to her ear like every busy, harried working woman you see these days. Except that Jamby Madrigal is hardly your idea of a typical working woman. She's an heiress, wealthy as in the Gatsby fairytale of class and privilege, highly educated abroad, and boasting a distinguished pedigree.

And she's getting married to a young and handsome Frenchman, and a blueblood to boot.

It shows in her face this afternoon: she's radiant, smiling and chatty. But not girlishly bubbly, mind you. It's not like she's marrying someone who has swept her off her feet in a whirlwind romance. Eric Dudoignon-Valade has been a constant dining and traveling companion for almost three years, just really best friends. Well, talk about marrying your own best friend.

"I could not have imagined last year that I would be marrying Eric," Jamby says, laughing. She has settled herself in her chair and after perusing the menu and finding nothing she likes (she's a vegan), she orders bottled water. Her friends were surprised and unbelieving when they read about the impending marriage in the papers. Is it true? Are you serious? The text messages bristled on Jamby's mobile. Her standard reply: "I hope you come to my wedding."

So what made her finally decide to get married? "I knew it was time," she says. "At the end of the day you know you're getting married because it happens. It's not one single decision you make in a flash." She quotes a passage in the Bible that says, "to everything there is a season." "When you know it and you feel it, it's time," she says.

Eric probably also felt it in his bones. When he popped the question, he was unlike the Frenchman of every woman's dreams: he offered no flowers, arranged for no candlelit dinner. He merely asked Jamby: "How many children do you want?" Looking back, Jamby says laughing, "I'm so mad because he deprived me of the opportunity of seeing a suitor fall on his knees and ask me to marry him." How did she answer his question? "I can't remember now. It was such a blur."

Indeed, it was. When Eric joined us at the coffeeshop later, the couple gave different answers on when the question was popped. Jamby: "We were diving." Eric: "We were inside a car."

Children are very much a part of Eric's marriage agenda. "I get married because I want to have children," he says. What woman could resist a guy like that? Jamby tried to sound offhand about it, saying, "It's easy for men to talk about children because they are not the ones who bear them." Eric oozes: "But men work hard to make them."

Jamby, he says, has been taking care of many children in the Philippines, "maybe she could do a little to have one of her own." And preferably a boy, because "it will be an advantage to have a boy in the Madrigal family. The Madrigals are a family of women and strong women at that."

So he realizes what he's getting married into?

"I've thought a lot about it," he replies, his bluish eyes crinkling. "You will never be a Madrigal, they made it clear from the start. A Madrigal is a Madrigal and I'm just an in-law. But I have no problem with that."

Says Jamby: "Eric is secure enough not to mind the nuances. He's not egoistic, he does not assert his identity even when he was exposed to the public eye during the elections."

> *He was homesick and wanted to talk to someone who spoke French. Soon, the aerospace engineer and licensed pilot and the heiress of the aristocratic Madrigal family became a couple. These days, former senatorial bet Jamby Madrigal and the next Count Valade are busy planning their wedding and future life together.*

The Madrigals are an old-rich, aristocratic family whose wealth is associated with the country's pioneering trade and industry. Jamby's grandfather Vicente Madrigal was a senator and one of the country's first industrialists; her ancestors on her mother's side is the esteemed former Chief Justice Jose Abad Santos and the social reformist Pedro Abad Santos. Jamby's aunts are the formidable society figures, Chito Madrigal Collantes (business leader of the clan) and Ising Vazquez.

Jamby, a graduate of Sorbonne, is a dedicated equestrienne who trained under the classical riding master Nuno Oliveira. She lived for many years in France and acquired a proficiency in the language which, as fate would have it, was her introduction to Eric Valade. A homesick Eric had asked his friends to introduce him to someone who could speak French. And so it came about that Jamby met Eric—and they became the fastest of friends.

They are opposites so they complement each other, she says. "Eric is pragmatic. I am romantic."

. But there's also the strong attraction of shared interests: "We have been together in my programs in Smokey Mountain (the garbage dump site in Tondo) as well as in remote barangays throughout the country, and I saw his concern. I could not marry someone who would not allow me to continue what I have started."

As most people know, Jamby ran for senator in the 2001 elections under then President Estrada's Partido ng Masang Pilipino and lost. She was nonetheless taken in by then President Joseph Estrada as presidential adviser on children's affairs. She's been espousing children's causes before she entered politics and intends to continue doing so.

She has since accepted her loss in the senatorial election. "I've learned a lot from it," she says. But she has not let up with her projects to "empower the poor, especially the women." She says she wants to put up nutrition centers not only to feed children but "to educate mothers as well on proper nutrition." Another of her continuing programs is the Books for the Barangays which, since 1995, has distributed more than a billion pesos worth of books.

A very creative and successful program for women empowerment has been the couple's reflexology center in Greenhills called Harmony, where women are trained in reflexology massage for the feet. "Here, with just their two hands, they can earn a decent living," says Jamby. "You can break the cycle of poverty if the person decides he's empowered enough to help himself." (The trainor and inspiration for Harmony is the phenomenal Desmond Sim, a born-again Christian who turned his back on a superstar career in Singaporean movies to pursue his healing mission. Call Harmony at 705-1649, 532-7636.)

Harmony was set up by Eric Valade, one of his attempts at introducing "quality businesses that have been done here before." He's an aerospace engineer and a licensed pilot (9/11 dashed his dream of flying). He's also an incurable adventurer (one of the reasons, he says, why he loves it here in the Philippines).

"He goes for extreme sports," Jamby says. He'd ski in off-limits slopes where he is likely to cause a few avalanches. He'd follow the wind from the south of Spain to Morocco, go where the waves are, sleep on the beach. "No plan, just pure adventure," Eric bubbles.

Jamby shares his passion for adventure vacations and the couple goes trekking in India, whitewater rafting in Tibet and diving in Boracay. Eric also enjoys accompanying Jamby on her socio-civic missions in far-flung places from Dumaguete to Baguio where, Eric says, he gets to see "the real Filipinos."

Eric grew up in Paris and remembers staying in the apartment of his grandmother (who's now 85 and coming to the wedding) just across the Louvre. "I learned to bike in the beautiful courtyard of the Louvre," he recalls. His family owned a chateau in Valade where they were from, which had a moat with eels swimming in it. The chateau was sold when he was young. The Valades own a picturesque beach house on the slope of a hill overlooking the fabled St. Tropez where Jamby spent three glorious weeks on a visit with Eric's parents.

Eric can trace his ancestors to Napoleonic France, which makes them really old nobility. "Their heads were chopped off during the revolution," says Eric, grinning. He is the next Count Valade, but he doesn't set much store by titles. Unlike in England, the nobility in France don't care about affixing their titles to their names, and their coat of arms are more likely to be seen on their silver.

So how does it feel to be the next countess? Jamby simply laughs. "I think it will be important for our children to have a sense of history, to tell them about his family and mine. But what's really important is the person, not the title."

Her engagement ring is an emerald family heirloom. Her wedding ring is an especially designed yellow sapphire that's a gift to her from Malou Unson, one of her *ninangs*. She will be wearing a simple satin gown by Joji Lloren and a veil of *piña* from Aklan—no lace, no embroidery.

But there will be a profusion of flowers in many colors to set the country theme when she walks down the aisle on December 7 at the family resort in Calatagan. The sponsors will include Ambassador Ramon del Rosario, Francisco Ortigas III, Imelda Cojuangco and Doña Consuelo Madrigal Collantes. There will be dancing under the stars and vintage wine flown all the way from Eric's father's wine cellar in France. Gaita Fores will cater.

And don't go asking Jamby Madrigal, soon to be hyphenated Dudoignon-Valade, about her political plans for 2004. "I don't think about it. I'm too busy planning a wedding." ◘

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Questions

1. In SMART's MTV Most Wanted ringtones and logos ad, how many logos and ringtones are feature in it?
2. What is the grand prize of the Diamond Be Mine promo of the Sunday Inquirer Magazine?
3. To get a complete list of SMART's MTV ringtones and logo downloads, you should log on to?
4. What section of the Philippine Daily Inquirer is hosting the Diamond Be Mine Promo?

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MAKATI
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QUEZON CITY
St. Anthony's Building
Cor. Oxford St. Aurora Blvd. Cubao
Tel. No. 912-9008 to 11

MANILA
Ground Floor TrinityBuilding
T.M. Kalaw St., Ermita
Tel. No. 527-3342

MANDALUYONG
SM Megamall,
5th Level Building B EDSA
Tel. No. 635-0219

ALABANG
Alabang Desktop Express, Makati Supermart
Alabang Town Center Muntinlupa City
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SMART MONEY GLAM GIRL
INA CHIONGBIAN:
BELLE OF LIGHT

At the Ian Occampo residence

Designer extraordinaire, Ina Chiongbian

"I don't consider myself artistic," confides Ina Chiongbian, and this is perhaps the most surprising item she will share with you. An incongruent statement, considering that the critical clouds seem to have parted for this winsome, intelligent, and modern young lady. And the light is starting to shine in on all fronts—her skills as an Interior Designer finally recognized by an increasingly more sophisticated market. Contacts and opportunities have sprung up like new buttercups in the sunshine and it looks like (she knocks on wood) things can only get better.

It is late morning, and this self-effacing head turner waxes contrite on any attempt to build her up any bigger than she really is or deserves to be. As the pre-lunch crowd starts to build into the typical buzz, she implores that this article be spare with platitudes, "don't be sobra, ha." Her eyes tinkle and she holds you with a full, toothsome smile, equal parts lass and vixen.

It is a disarming humility. And then you realize that it is the same astute sophistication that is displayed by the true leaders of style and society. Style- a quality meant to be shared, not just with those willing to pay for it but with those sensitive enough to appreciate it. For Ina, style or a sense of it is acquired through environment. "My fashion sense I got from my mom," she says, clad in classic white and olive khakis, a wine colored Tibetan/ Morrocan-ish amulet on her neck. Her father, a respected engineer with a natural architectural bent is probably the best hint as to how she found her affinity for Interior Design.

Four years at the Academy of Art College in San Francisco bagged her not only a degree (B.A. in Interior Design) but also a panoramic perspective on the world of art and design. It brought her growth. Frequent forays into exhibits and museums, most notably the Museum of Modern Art (MOMA) gave her a revelation on the powers of the artiste, not just what it had achieved for human expression, but what was infinitely possible.

San Francisco, unfairly beautiful bayside metropolis and frontier of creativity is a city which tugs at her heartstrings. "I love people watching," she scans the hurrying crowd through the windows, " On Columbus Street by a place called The Steps of Rome, I'd try to figure out their stories, their lives." The telltale signs for Ina: how they dress, walk, the very expressions they wear on their faces.

Aside from being acquired, she also avers that style can also be taught. Although strict purists may disagree, Ina is decidedly more democratic in imparting style as a quality. This is perhaps the reason why shaping the textures and colors of people's homes becomes her main vehicle for this largesse. If style is to be shared, what more tangible mode is there than communicating it in the very spaces we come home to? For Ina, lighting provides a crucial element.

"Certain lights give out a different look during night or day. Indirect lighting is best for evoking moods," she explains, pointing out to a limitless range of style permutations and combinations. "You have to weigh things." Some clients know exactly what they want while others give Ina carte blanche; she makes it a point to always recommend alternative avenues. "As a designer you have to have your own identity."

Real artists guard against rigidity, of growing enamored with the myth that artistic rules are set in stone, or that they exist at all. "I always learn something new with every project. Research into new materials and their application is very important to me," a rush of emotion, " Every project is exciting, always different, always positive."

Last week, Ina was able to sample for herself the innovative award-winning product SMART Money. It was simple collusion between style, form, and function. With just a few clicks on the SMART Menu she activated and linked her SMART Money to her SMART GSM celfone. With her personalized SMART Money Card activated, Ina was ready to shop and needless to say, "I splurged," she giggles uncontrollably. "My SMART Money is so convenient, like an ATM card and a debit card." To her delight she gets a text message every time she makes a SMART Money transaction, enabling her to keep a firm track of her finances, expenses, and to control her budget. In case she feels altruistic, especially this close to the holidays, Ina can use her SMART Money Card to reload her friends' SMART prepaid celfones, or , "aside from reloading their phones, I can even transfer funds to say, my driver, from my SMART Money Card to his to gas up, in case I'm busy catching up on my Christmas shopping." she realizes, her practical and sensible nature showing through.

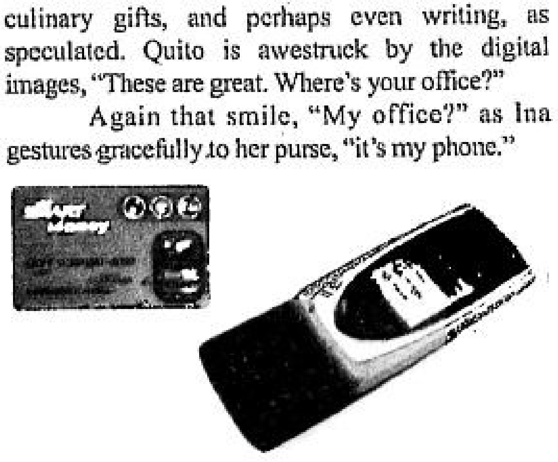
SMART Money Card to reload her friends' SMART prepaid celfones, or , "aside from reloading their phones, I can even transfer funds to say, my driver, from my SMART Money Card to his to gas up," she realizes.

She may find herself making a sentimental sojourn to beloved San Francisco soon, and even there SMART Money will be there to help her glide through Pier 34, or Embarcadero, just as long as the MasterCard sign is visible. There are just about 20 million MasterCard Electronic establishments worldwide.

If Ina enrolls in Mobile Banking while maintaining a bank account in one of SMART's Mobile Banking partners, she can do basic bank transactions anytime, anywhere through her SMART GSM celfone. She can transfer funds from her mobile banking account to her SMART Money Card for endless shopping. There's no need to go to the ATM to get cash. Ayala Avenue or Union Square. She seems to be a keen prospect for such a service, being as the peripatetic shopper she is.

Always dynamic. Always on the go. What could be next for her? "I'm evolving," she muses over coffee, "I like where I'm going." Just then, Quito a mutual friend walks in and shares what's left of the morning with us. Ina shows him some of her latest projects, snapshots of which she had taken and saved on her SMART 7650 with MMS. The quality and composition of the photographs are revelatory. The same artistry Ina first poured into Interior Design finds an easy home in either photography as evidenced, cooking by repeated testimonial of some lucky enough to sample her culinary gifts, and perhaps even writing, as speculated. Quito is awestruck by the digital images, "These are great. Where's your office?"

Again that smile, "My office?" as Ina gestures gracefully to her purse, "it's my phone."



ADVT

Movers and Shakers

By Fe B. Zamora

The General and His Sister

BOY CABRIDO

Gen. Benjamin Defensor says life is too short to spend pondering his 79 days' term as Armed Forces chief of staff. He'd rather reflect on his colorful life with controversial sister Miriam Defensor Santiago and what they have in common: a wicked wit

GROWING up with a sister like Miriam Defensor Santiago—who befuddles the world just by being herself—was a breeze for Gen. Benjamin Palma Defensor, Jr. In fact, he was—and continues to be—in awe of the temperamental former senator. "She is the genius in the family. We are just one step lower," he recalls.

As the eldest among the seven children of Judge Benjamin Defensor and Mathematics teacher Dimpna Palma, Miriam set high standards as a well-rounded daughter who excelled in just about anything. She was a voracious reader, an excellent swimmer and a consistent valedictorian. She would also become the first female editor-in-chief of the University of the Philippines' "The Collegian," and guest editor-in-chief of "The Femme," the female counterpart of the Philippine Military Academy's (PMA) The Corps, where her brother Benjie was also editor-in-chief.

"She is in a class of her own," he says of his sister. "She uses language like nobody does."

The former senator, and almost-president—she claims she was cheated and robbed of victory during the 1992 presidential race—tantalized the media with her drop-dead quotes. For her, a foe is "a fungus-faced intellectual bonsai." And low-lifes are not worms but Filipinos who have not studied in Harvard and Oxford.

"Her vocabulary is galactic, mine is only universal," the general quips of his sister.

But more than an extensive vocabulary, the siblings also share the same brand of wry, sometimes wicked humor littered with irony that ordinary minds might not readily grasp.

Defensor, however, maintains that inability to blend with the "majority" is the fate of geniuses. "You will know that a genius is around because all the mediocre people gang up on her, afraid they would be unmasked for what they are," he explains.

Compared to Miriam, who is one year older, Defensor says he is uncomplicated, even in his jokes. "They have to be easily understood because my audience are mostly soldiers," he says.

On November 28, Defensor officially bows out from government service as the 30th chief of staff of the Armed Forces of the Philippines. He holds the record for the shortest stint as CSAFP—all of 79 days.

He claims many other records as well. "I have never been a deputy commander. I was always assigned as the commander," says this 1969 graduate of the PMA. That, he says, gave him an inkling that he would climb to the top of the military hierarchy.

In 1974, Defensor made Air Force history when he earned two Gold Cross Medals within 24 hours of continuous operations in Jolo. He was wounded in action when rebels fired at his helicopter, hitting him in the leg. He remembers his co-pilot, Lt. Abdon Ocampo, as a "real fighter who never hesitated." In 1976, Ocampo had an accident that kept him bedridden for a year. He passed away as a lieutenant, and to this day Defensor keeps their pictures as young pilots to remind him to be grateful for all his blessings.

But it was also hard work. "Destiny is not a matter of luck, or chance. It's also hard work," the general says.

In 1976, Defensor enrolled for a Masteral degree in Mass Communication at the University of the Philippines. With characteristic humor, he told some classmates that he was at UP to "spy on them." Some of these classmates, among them the late Louie Beltran—and Mass Comm professors, like Orly Mercado, Alice Coseteng and Tessa Jasminez—got wind of the joke, and it became the start of his friendship with them.

The Mass Com degree thus "qualified" Defensor to manage a radio station and the weekly Economic Monitor. In February 1986, after the Marcos military knocked down the Veritas transmitter in Bulacan, cutting off the People Power

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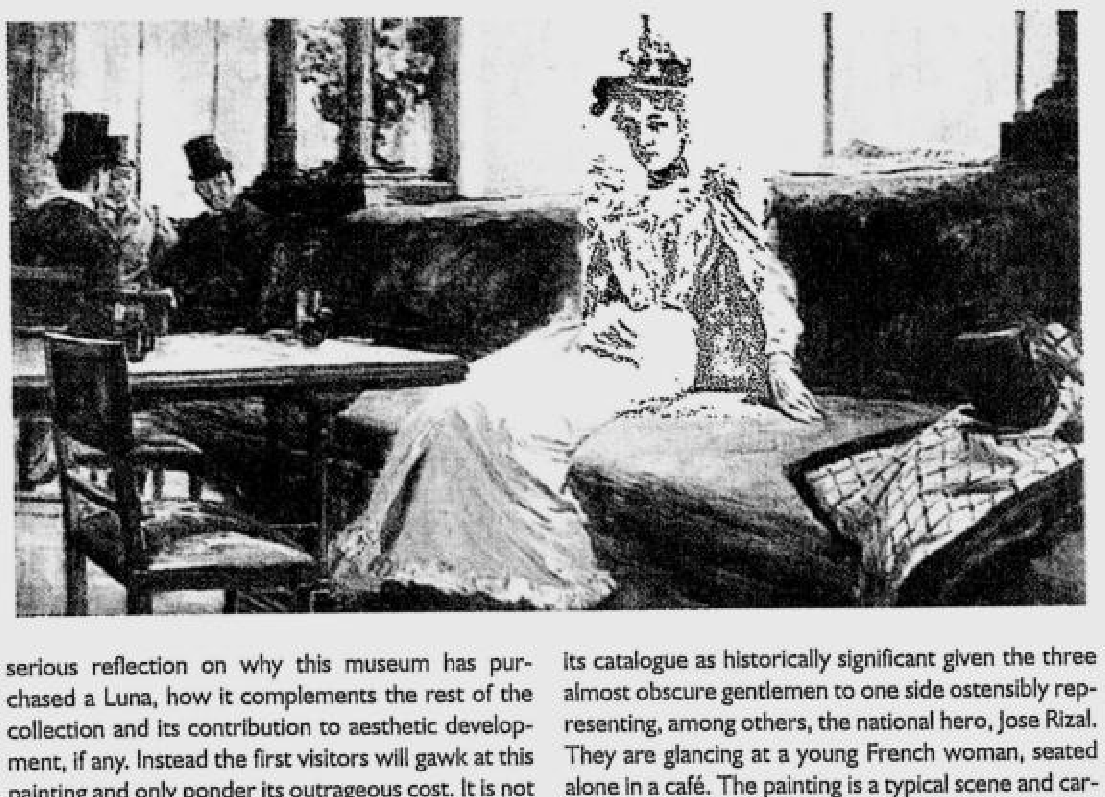
End Page

By John L. Silva

Was She Worth the Price?

The Juan Luna purchase happens at a time when all arts and cultural institutions receiving government funding have suffered severe cutbacks in the past years



AFTER all the hype and the patriotic flourish, one can only conclude that the purchase of the Juan Luna painting "Parisian Life" by the government agency GSIS, was a useless shopping spree.

At a final price of P46 million plus plus, the deficit-ridden Macapagal-Arroyo government has just foolishly purchased a $1 million painting. What is particularly galling is that the purchase goes against everything President Macapagal-Arroyo has been basking in. It's the Mother Teresa presidency as she wades in floodwaters to distribute rice, dances with poor tribal maidens, comforts the indigent in hospitals, and consoles penniless army widows with P50,000 checks. The point behind all these stirring photo ops vanishes because one of her boys gets an Imeldific shopping urge. Her on-the-surface sincerity in mixing with the masses becomes cynical posturing in the face of an obscene purchase.

The GSIS proclaims the painting as a national treasure and worth every dollar. Pure rubbish. Before it was placed at auction, the painting had been peddled locally for under P8 million and even then there were no takers. For those in the know, this particular Juan Luna has been politely described as mediocre, and that's no blasphemy. Having been a prodigious painter with much of his works still intact, any amateur aesthete can tell an inspired Luna from a so-so.

Even before Mr. Winston Garcia went bananas with the government charge card, everyone in the know knew the bidders for the painting would only be Filipinos. That painting would have been won by a Filipino and brought back home without GSIS squandering a single centavo of pension funds.

Mr. Garcia seems to have violated all proprieties regarding the bidding conduct. After having inquired about the painting's condition and provenance, Mr. Garcia had serious homework to do in comparing the hammer prices of similar late 19th century paintings sold recently in the world auction market. And, like any astute bidder, Mr. Garcia should have entered the bidding session with a maximum bid price and stuck to it. Instead, this poor country, with over half of its people not knowing where they will get their next meal, witnesses a political appointee, using money not his, bid solely to win a painting, at whatever price. Mr. Garcia apparently cannot distinguish between wise bidding from buying retail.

The painting is brought back with Mr. Garcia trying desperately to be like Melina Mercouri triumphantly bringing home the stolen Elgin Marble to her beloved Greece. A public viewing is arranged. But it is all in the empty *palabas* style. The GSIS Museum has been woefully understaffed with just one paid executive director. There has been no serious reflection on why this museum has purchased a Luna, how it complements the rest of the collection and its contribution to aesthetic development, if any. Instead the first visitors will gawk at this painting and only ponder its outrageous cost. It is not unlike a Japanese Museum which, years earlier, bought Van Gogh's "Sunflowers" for $39 million. Visitors to that museum came with calculators figuring how much the painting was worth in yen. Gone were the discussions on colors and brushstrokes. Instead, it was all about Japan Inc. with money to burn. Unfortunately, this benighted country is not flush with the same resources.

The Juan Luna purchase happens at a time when all arts and cultural institutions receiving government funding have suffered severe cutbacks in the past years. If the GSIS claims that the money they used was from their "business development fund," that amount could handily support these institutions, develop employment, increase programs and enhance local tourism. The painting's price, in fact, is roughly half the yearly operational budget of the National Museum, or the National Historical Institute. Instead, the GSIS is now burdened with an overpriced, non-performing asset of a painting which cannot be used to fuel any so-called business development project. Given the subject matter, the painting will fail to even generate tourist interest.

Christie's, like any institution in the business of selling, will trumpet its auction items in the most convincing fashion. The painting has been heralded in its catalogue as historically significant given the three almost obscure gentlemen to one side ostensibly representing, among others, the national hero, Jose Rizal. They are glancing at a young French woman, seated alone in a café. The painting is a typical scene and carries no visual fixture to proclaim it a Philippine genre painting save for the artist's name. There are other Juan Luna paintings with local scenes and subject matter that resonate with greater emotion among art lovers. The "Bulakeña," the "Blood Compact," and Luna's portrait of his mother come to mind. Despite the Filipino gentlemen's presence in the Parisian scene, the painting's provenence and age fall short of Christie's prose, but unfortunately still impressed its new gullible owners.

In the end, Christie's, familiar with Third World parvenus who must brag they have money, even if it's not theirs to spend, successfully provoked a bidding war and is now P5 million in commissions richer and laughing at our expense all the way to the bank.

The Parisian Lady was not worth it. And the Macapagal-Arroyo administration has lost considerable public respect over this issue. Oftentimes, indiscretions committed in the cultural realm does not get serious attention or scrutiny as say, the Diosdado Macapagal Boulevard scandal. It's foolish to think that. The purchase of this painting was a very serious misuse of government pension funds and has significantly eroded the credibility of the President in presenting herself as a business-minded and caring person. Heads are going to have to roll over this one.

This Week

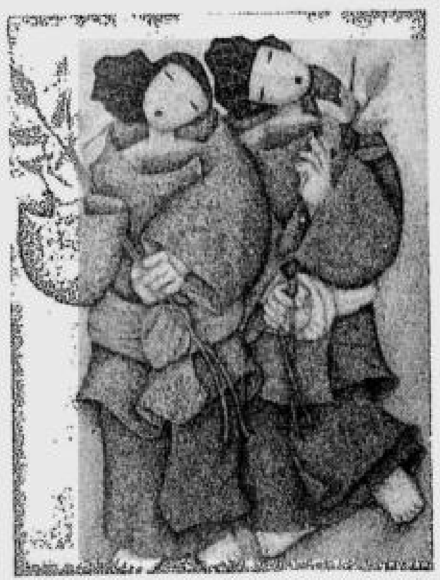
Art

Portraits by Nonoy Marcelo, an exhibit of mixed media portraits of well-known personalities done by the late cartoonist Severino "Nonoy" Marcelo at the While Wall Art Space in Crowded House, Vinzon's Hall, Diliman, QC until Nov. 29.

Exhibit E, a one-man photo exhibit by Edwin E. Bacasmas from Nov. 24 to Dec. 3 at Rodeo Drive, 2/L, Robinsons Galleria, Ortigas, Pasig.

Expressions of Mexican Subjects in Chinese Painting, a 22-piece art collection by Mexican painter Roberto Villareal epitomizing the spirit of Eastern art in a Latin American setting, until Dec. 1 at InterContinental Manila's lobby Art Café.

The Jaime Zobel Perspective: Exhibit and Sale features Zobel photography books, cards and prints including rare and collectible titles from his early works to his most recent publications, Nov. 25 to Dec. 6 at the Filipinas Heritage Library, Makati Avenue. The book signing will be on Nov. 26 (2-4 p.m.) and on Dec. 2 (10 a.m. to 12 noon). For details, call 892-1801.



"The Season's Charm" by Jack Salud

My Soul Whispers Poetic Dotted Images, a collection of paintings and poems by Jack Salud until Dec. 4 at Gallery 139, 3/L, Glorietta 4, Makati City.

Babaye, a solo exhibit by visual artist Rodney S. Martinez, opens today at Syano Artlink, 19 Shanghai St., Better Living Subd., Parañaque and runs until Dec. 8.

Household Names, an exhibit of functional and decorative objects made by contemporary artists Bobby Castillo, Eng Chan, Nona Garcia, Christopher Manalang, Hadrian Mendoza, Estela Ocampo and Ikoy Ricio at the Drawing Room, Metrostar Building, Metropolitan Avenue, Makati City until Dec. 11.

Music

San Agustin Museum will stage the **4th San Agustin International Music Festival** featuring renowned organists Luc Ponet of Belgium, Juan Maria Pedrero of Spain and Eric Dimson of the Philippines as they perform Baroque compositions in the 18th century Pipe Organ of the San Agustin Church in Intramuros from Nov. 26-28. For details, call 527-4060.

Let's Do It D '70s Way, a stay-in dance party featuring Q&A, Ugoy-Ugoy, Labuyo and Spirit of '67 hosted by Ariel Ureta on Nov. 30 at Le Pavillon, Roxas Boulevard. Tickets at P1,000 are available at all Via Mare restaurant branches and Ticketworld outlets. For inquiries, call 891-5610.

The Sayaw Foundation will hold a **fundraising dinner concert** featuring Austrian pianist Franz Langer, soprano Christa Hermetsberger, the Madrigal Singers, Ballet Philippines Theater, tenor Nolyn Cabahug and the 747 Band at the ballroom of Mandarin Oriental, Manila on Nov. 25, 7 p.m. For inquiries, call 750-8888 ext. 2437.

DKT Philippines will sponsor the **World Aids Day concert** on Dec. 1, 9:30 p.m. at the Hard Rock Café. Featured artists are Janno Gibbs, Ogie Alcasid, Rachel Alejandro, Geneva Cruz, Carol Banawa, Dessa, Ivy Violan, Janet Basco and Jinky Llamanzares. For tickets, call 893-4661 to 64.

The Mobb will hold a concert at the Captain's Bar on Nov. 27 at 9 p.m with Ronnie Henares and the Replay Band of La Salle as special guests. The Mobb performs every last Wednesday of the month bringing the music of the '60s and '70s to the fore. For inquiries, call 750-8888 ext. 2446.

Onstage

Dulaang UP highlights its 27th theater season with the staging of an award-winning play, Archibald MacLeish's **JB**, opening on Nov. 27, 7 p.m. at Wilfrido Ma. Guerrero Theater, Palma Hall, UP Diliman. JB is a modern retelling of the story of Job. Other performances will be on Nov. 28, 29, Dec. 4, 5, 6, 11, 12, 13 at 7 p.m.; Nov. 20, Dec. 1, 7, 8, 14 and 15 at 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. For tickets, call 926-1349.

The Vagina Monologues in Filipino will have performances on Nov. 29 and 30, 9 p.m. at the Music Museum. The Filipino run will feature Gina Alajar, Pinky Amador and Angelu de Leon. For tickets, call 896-6695 or 896-5497.

Atbp

The **Association of Former Flight Attendants of Philippine Airlines** and the AFFAP Foundation Inc. will raffle off a brand new Toyota Revo SR on Dec. 20, 6:30 p.m. at the In-flight Center Multipurpose Hall at Naia Road, Baltao, Pasay City. Tickets are at P300 each which will benefit the retired flight attendants and give scholarship grants to their dependents. Tickets available at Mandy Navasero Studio at 1935 Dominga St., Makati, or call 522-1905 / 522-5185 or 89, Carmen Miciano (800-3490), Avelyn Jahns (850-8697) and Greta Lauron (807-1553).

The Kairos Marriage Encounter Community is offering a **Marriage Encounter weekend** on Dec. 6-8 at SAIDI Formation Center, Hinulugang Taktak Drive, Antipolo City. For details, call Roy and Malee San Buenaventura at 0917-3666660, (office) 911-3101 loc. 7365.

Miriam College's Office for Social Involvement is accepting **donations for the Christmas Relief Drive**, "Paskong Walang Gyera, Noche Buena Hindi Bala." Donations will go to the day care/urban poor children in Pasig and West Kamias, Mangyan Internal Refugees, Muslim Deportees from Sabah, Malaysia, and political prisoners. Donations most appreciated are basic needs such as toiletries, noodles, canned goods, eating utensils, school items, used clothes, blankets and towels. Donations will be accepted until Dec. 12. For inquiries, call Lolit Mendoza at 927-2421 loc. 266.

Moist, an unconventional magazine for readers who need something to stimulate their mind, is in need of writers. The magazine will comprise four sections of diverse topics such as literature, entertainment, relationships and social advocacy. Writers may submit poems, short stories, essays, etc. to moistmagazine@mailcity.com as an attached word processing file preferably in .rtf or .txt format. For inquiries, call 0917-7342163.

The Research and Extension for Development Office will hold a **forum on using Genetically Modified Organisms and Their Implications to Development Work** on Dec. 4, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the College of Social Work and Community Development Conference Room, UP Diliman. Registration fee is P200 inclusive of food and training kit. For inquiries, call 929-2477 or 929-8438.

The Museum Foundation of the Philippines Inc. will conduct a series of **art workshops** at the National Museum on Nov. 30 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. It will cover different art techniques for children, young adults and professionals who are interested in using a specific art medium. For details, call 404-2685.

Angelu de Leon in New Voice Company's "The Vagina Monologues"

Don Henrico's Malate and West Avenue are holding an anniversary raffle promo. For every P1,000 food purchase (dine-in, take-out, delivery or reservations), customers earn one raffle coupon. Prizes at stake are magazine subscriptions, spa reflexology treatments, CDs, weekend getaways at prime hotels and resorts, and a grand prize of a three-day vacation for two at Plantation Bay. Promo is until Jan. 15, 2003. Don Henrico's Malate is at the 2/F, Salud Building, Pedro Gil cor. A. Mabini St., Malate, Manila and Don Henrico's West Avenue is at the corner of Examiner and West Avenue, QC.

Instituto Cervantes, the British Council, Alliance Francaise, the Philippine-Italian Association and the Goethe Institut together with UP, Ateneo, UST and De La Salle University will celebrate a **European Week of Languages** with DLSU as host from Nov. 25-29. All activities will culminate on Nov. 29 with a football tournament among the university teams. For details, call 526-1482 to 85.

Fitness Fortress Inc. celebrates its first anniversary with a P750 Only 1 Month Aerobics + Gym Unlimited and No Membership Fee promo. Enrollment is until Dec. 15. Also offered are boxing, judo, taekwondo, and freestyle wrestling. Fitness Fortress is at 3/F, Royal Midway Plaza, 419 Tandang Sora Ave., QC. For details, call 456-7476.

A **Putting Up a Daycare/Preschool seminar** will be held on Nov. 30 and Dec. 1 at the ACCM Building, 102 Valero St., Salcedo Village, Makati City. Limited slots available. Reservations accepted until Nov. 29. For details, call 823-2615 or text 0919-8270776.

The Sinag Arts Foundation will hold a **Theater Maintenance Workshop** on Nov. 25 and **Safety and First Aid Workshop** on Dec. 2-6. The workshops will be conducted at the Sinag Arts Studio, 664 San Ignacio St., Mandaluyong City. For details, call 531-3491.

There will be a **Sign Language Class** to be held every Monday from Dec. 2, to Feb. 24, 2003 at the ACCM Building, 102 Valero St., Salcedo Village, Makati City. Seminar fee is P2,500 for the entire course. For reservations, call 823-2615. Reservations accepted until Dec. 1.

X-manila

The **UPLB Teatro Umalohokan**, a campus-based community theater group, marks its 25th year with a grand alumni homecoming on Dec. 7-8 at the Mutya ng Calamba Resort, Miramonte Village. Activities include the launch of the Umalohokan Alumni Association Inc. website and its 2003 Theater Season. Alumni, resident members and those who have joined the group's productions are invited to the event. For details, call Kite Arceo (0917-5030603), Elmar Beltran Ingles (834-8966) or Edgar Castro (0916-4797089).

The **6th International Baguio Arts Festival** is ongoing until Dec. 3 at various art-spaces in Baguio City. Highlights of the festival are the 108 Ganza Performance with Torch Parade, the Grace Nono concert and other musical concerts at the Botanical Garden, gallery exhibits of visual arts and photography, outdoor shows of installation works, independent Filipino films and video, the interactive performances of The Baguio Art Mapping Project, artists forum and art tours for schools.

For this week's bands and schedules call:

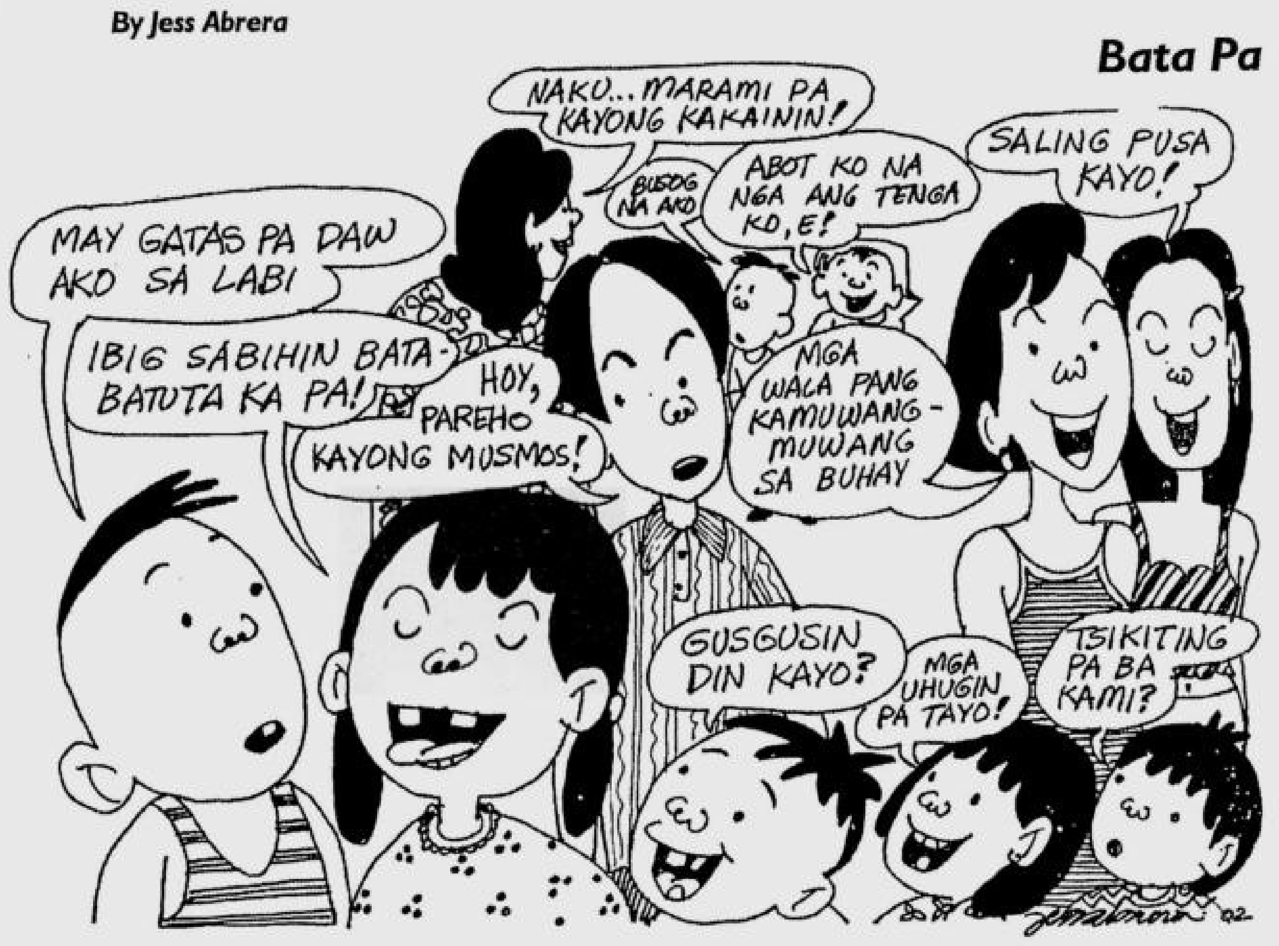
- Hard Rock Café (893-4662-65)
- Virgin Café : QC (926-7982)
- '70s Bistro: 46 Anonas St., QC (922-0492)
- Hobbit House: 1801 Mabini St., Malate, Manila (521-7604)
- Strumm's: El Pueblo, Ortigas (637-3009)

The Sunday Inquirer Magazine welcomes listings of events in and outside Metro Manila. Please send announcements at least two weeks in advance, and include contact numbers for inquiries on schedules.

Pinoy Nga!

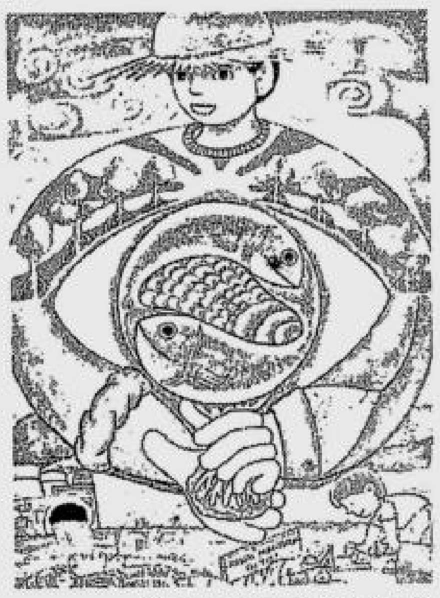
By Jess Abrera

Bata Pa


MAY GATAS PA DAW AKO SA LABI
IBIG SABIHIN BATA-BATUTA KA PA!
NAKO... MARAMI PA KAYONG KAKAININ!
BUSOG NA AKO
ABOT KO NA NGA ANG TENGA KO, E!
HOY, PAREHO KAYONG MUSMOS!
MGA WALA PANG KAMUWANG-MUWANG SA BUHAY
SALING PUSA KAYO!
GUSGUSIN DIN KAYO?
MGA UHUGIN PA TAYO!
TSIKITING PA BA KAMI?
'02

Art Against Disaster

Young artists Rovelito Bueza of Good Shepherd Diocesan School in Lucban, Quezon and Izza Elyn Mejes of Midsayap Pilot Elementary School in Midsayap, North Cotabato won the major prize in the 7-9 age group of the annual Citizens' Disaster Response Center's (CDRC) *Apoy, Bagyo, Kalamidad: Dibuhong Pambata* disaster preparedness poster-making contest. Two entries submitted by Ma. Mafer Mateus Madero of Jordan Central School in Jordan, Guimaras earned the top two spots in the 10-12 age group. Major prize winners will receive P5,000 each and a certificate of recognition. As part of the prize, winning entries will be featured in CDRC's 2003 Disaster Preparedness calendar and other CDRC publications.



"Simple Deed Great Help!" by Ma. Mafer Mateus Madero

The General

...from page 6

coverage from the airwaves, broadcasters June Keithley returned to the air via Radio Bandido. That was the radio station managed by Benjie Defensor.

Radio Bandido was actually DZRJ, which is owned by businessman and rocker Ramon Jacinto. Veritas was on the 846 band, while RJ was 810. "It was too close that you would not notice the difference," he says. But as to whether it was a spur-of-the-moment decision to use DZRJ as alternate station to Veritas, or part of a grand plan, Defensor remains mum. "That is for another interview," he quips. That's why he is pretty sure, Defensor adds, that all these coup rumors are nothing but that.

He laughs off text messages that accused him of hiring a PR firm for P5 million, purposely to ensure his extension as AFP chief of staff. "I am part of media, that is my advantage," he says.

But dirty tricks is a matter for low lifes that would not enhance the growth of one's brains, he says. To prevent brain atrophy, Defensor plays chess without a chessboard. "I can also play chess blindfolded," he says. He was with the Philippine team in the Chess Olympics in Malta in 1981.

Recently, when Defensor was chief of the Air Force, he played an exhibition game against grandmasters Eugene Torre, Bong Villamayor and Joey Antonio all at the same time. Defensor maintained he was serious. "But maybe they were having fun. So when they resigned after two moves, I accepted their resignation."

Life, he says, is too short to be wasted pondering whether one has spent "69 days or 69 years" as AFP chief of staff. He'd rather spend it in quality pursuits, like working on a doctorate in management, conversing with his three children or with his 6-year-old granddaughter, poking fun at his wife, Margaret Soliman Defensor, or playing with words to describe the New People's Army leader *Ka* Roger.

Samples of his wicked wit:

"When people ask me about my age, I always say I am older than my wife, then I lie about her age, ha ha ha."

"*Ka* Roger is a crossbreed between a parrot and a monkey. A parrot is a good talker but a bad flyer and a monkey is a jester."

Seriously, he adds:

"Life is a gleam of time characterized by a spark of performance between two eternities."

And that, to borrow the words of Miriam, should be "irrefragably clear."

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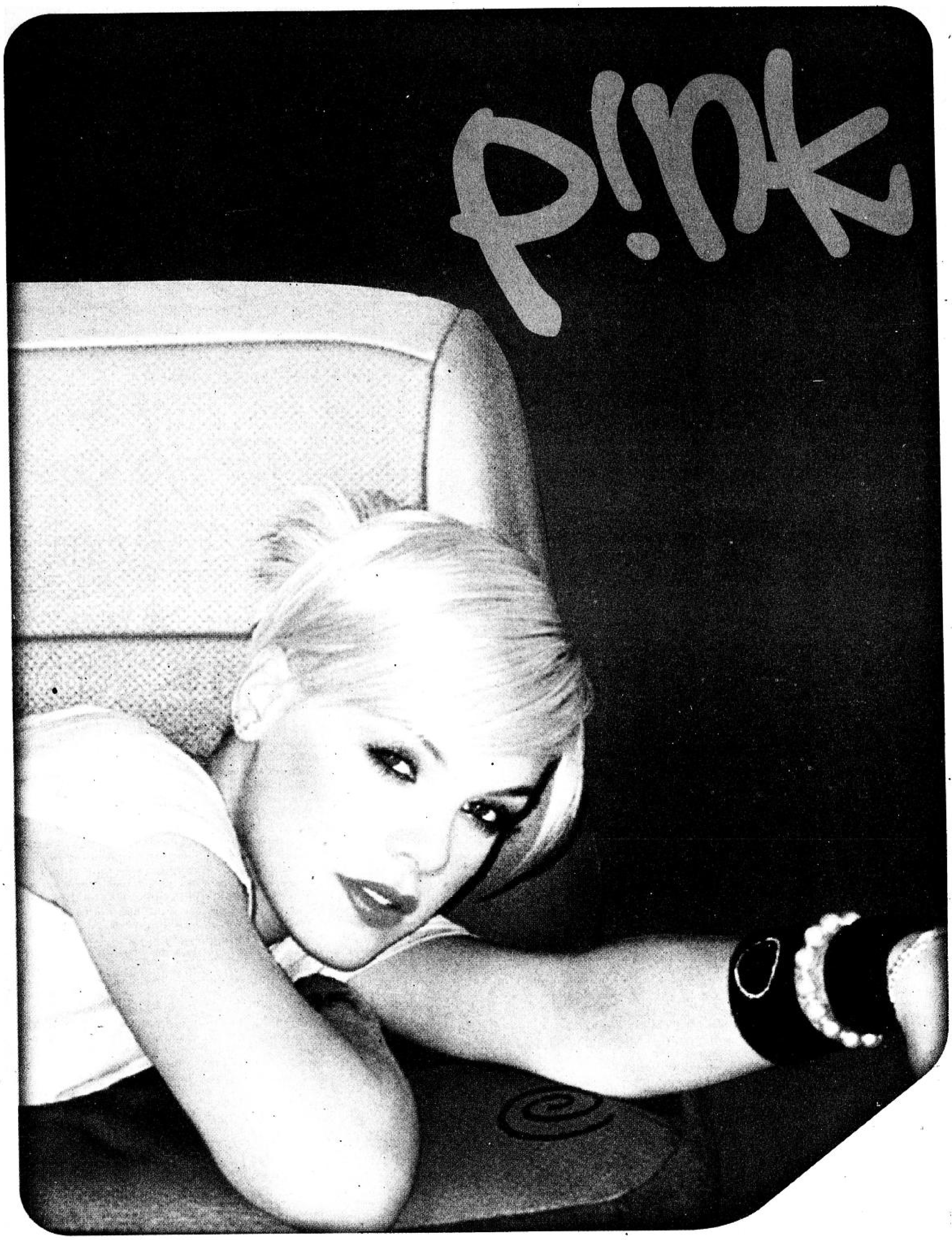
HIGH SCHOOL (YEAR 1 TO 4)

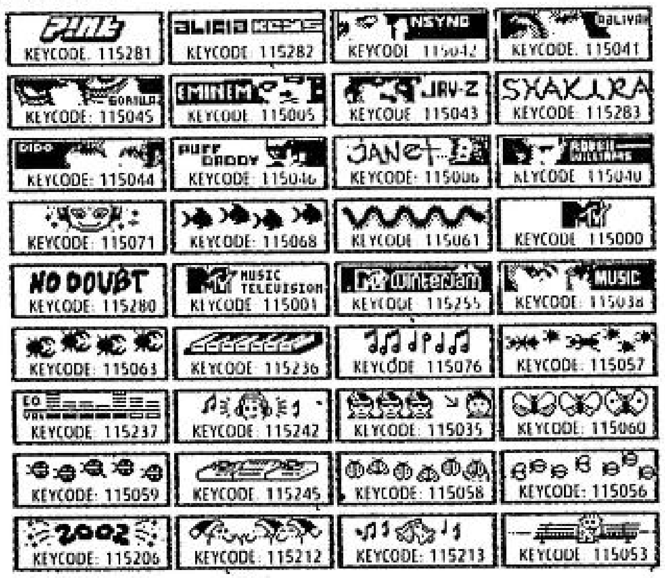
Simply most wanted



MTV Most Wanted Ringtones and Logos

Load up on the hits at your request with the MTV Most Wanted Ringtones and Logos from SMART.

LOGOS



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KEYCODE: 115045	KEYCODE: 115005	KEYCODE: 115043	KEYCODE: 115283
KEYCODE: 115044	KEYCODE: 115046	KEYCODE: 115006	KEYCODE: 115040
KEYCODE: 115071	KEYCODE: 115068	KEYCODE: 115061	KEYCODE: 115000
KEYCODE: 115280	KEYCODE: 115001	KEYCODE: 115255	KEYCODE: 115038
KEYCODE: 115063	KEYCODE: 115236	KEYCODE: 115076	KEYCODE: 115057
KEYCODE: 115237	KEYCODE: 115242	KEYCODE: 115035	KEYCODE: 115060
KEYCODE: 115059	KEYCODE: 115245	KEYCODE: 115058	KEYCODE: 115056
KEYCODE: 115206	KEYCODE: 115212	KEYCODE: 115213	KEYCODE: 115053

RINGTONES

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Britney Spears
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I Love Rock'n'Roll
Britney Spears
KEYCODE: **102458**

Here Is Gone
Goo Goo Dolls
KEYCODE: **102204**

Iris
Goo Goo Dolls
KEYCODE: **102056**

Cry
Mandy Moore
KEYCODE: **102010**

Someday We'll Know
Mandy Moore
KEYCODE: **102474**

Don't Let Me Get Me
Pink
KEYCODE: **102180**

Just Like A Pill
Pink
KEYCODE: **102504**

There You'll Be
Faith Hill
KEYCODE: **101395**

Corazon Espinado
Santana
KEYCODE: **101065**

Fallin
Alicia Keys
KEYCODE: **101424**

A Woman's Worth
Alicia Keys
KEYCODE: **101926**

Dig In
Lenny Kravitz
KEYCODE: **101786**

Believe In Me
Lenny Kravitz
KEYCODE: **102225**

Love Foolosophy
Jamiroquai
KEYCODE: **101962**

No more drama
Mary J Blige
KEYCODE: **102118**

All The Small Things
Blink 182
KEYCODE: **101014**

First Date
Blink 182
KEYCODE: **101692**

Jamiroquai
Virtual Insanity
Keycode: **101335**

Jennifer Lopez
Ain't It Funny
Keycode: **101405**

A-HA and A1
Take On Me
Keycode: **101304**

A1
Like A Rose
Keycode: **102450**

A1
One More Try
Keycode: **101706**

Westlife
Angel
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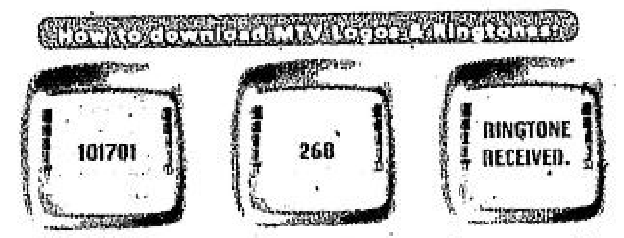

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